

HALESOWEN CHRONICLE



Thursday, October 23, 2014

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CHAIN GANG

Women's strike for fair pay celebrated



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THE VET VIP

Actor meets creatures great and small



PAGE 3

Homes on station site get green light

FOURTEEN homes will be built on the site of the old Halesowen Fire Station, after plans were approved by councillors.

The station was replaced with Haden Cross Fire Station in Cradley Heath, which cost £3 million and opened in the summer with 44 firefighters now based there.

The plans for the site were recommended for approval and councillors on Dudley Council's development control committee unanimously voted in favour of the development on Monday.

Quality

The site is in the ward of Councillor Ken Turner, who was pleased with the proposed high quality of the houses. He said: "It's very good what they have done. By turning it into 14 houses it will certainly provide a lot of benefit to the location and keep it in the better quality of houses."

"There is certainly demand for housing of a better standard and will provide accommodation for people hopefully coming to work in Halesowen and extend Halesowen's economy."

The fire station, which closed two years ago, has already been demolished by developers Horgan Homes & Developments Ltd.

Robber hurts woman, 75

A 75-year-old woman was taken to hospital with a fractured arm and hip after being robbed in Quarry Bank.

The elderly woman was attacked at around 7pm while walking at Thorns Road on Monday.

She was dragged to the floor by the attacker who had snatched her bag.

Police have launched an investigation into the assault and robbery.

Anyone with information is asked to contact police on 101.

APPEAL OVER MISSING ASHES

A DEVASTATED family have appealed for help finding a grandmother's ashes after vandals wreaked havoc in a Black Country cemetery.

The ashes of Julia Ann Waldron disappeared during a wrecking spree by vandals in the Garden of Remembrance at Rowley Regis Cemetery and Crematorium last week.

Items were removed from plots including the wooden casket containing ashes when 70 memorials were attacked.

Mrs Waldron's family contacted Sandwell Council's bereavement services following the attack and they were told that her ashes were missing.

Searching

The family have been frantically searching for the casket over recent days at the crematorium and surrounding land.

Police and council staff have kept in contact with the family but relatives are also calling for the public's help to find the ashes.

Her daughter, Jane Harris, said it was 'heartbreaking' and appealed for the vandals to reveal where the ashes have been left.

"We are not bothered about the people who have done this."

"We just want the ashes returned," said the 42-year-old from Rowley Regis.

"We are just asking if anyone has seen anything that looks unusual or out of place to speak to the authorities."

"Or if anyone knows these people, or if they are reading this and they have a conscience, all we ask is just tell someone where these ashes are."

Mrs Waldron, who lived off Shepherds Fold, Black-

By Andrew Turton

heath, died on August 6, 2008, aged 62, after a period of ill health.

Her ashes were placed in a small wooden casket, which was placed inside the memorial.

The attack was discovered by council staff as they opened the site on Monday morning, October 13.

Shop worker Mrs Harris, who is making the appeal along with her sister Julie Knott, 45, added: "We can't believe it has happened."

"We are very grateful to the council staff and police who have been very helpful."

Sandwell Council leader Councillor Darren Cooper said: "We're continuing to work closely with the family and West Midlands Police to resolve this matter."

"Staff are searching for the casket and any information that members of the public can provide would be welcomed to help us ease the family's suffering."

Concerned families or those with information on the missing remains of Mrs Waldron are asked to call Sandwell Council's bereavement team at the cemetery on 0121 569 6700 between 9am and 4.30pm.

Special guide to borough's real ale trail



Cheers — Culture boss Councillor Hilary Bills with CAMRA members outside the Lamp Tavern in Dudley

REAL ale drinkers are raising their glass to a guide that showcases some of the best boozers in the Black Country.

The Dudley Real Ale Trail features 33 of the best real ale pubs in the borough, featuring beers from local breweries such as Bathams, Holden's and Enville.

The guide has been produced by Dudley Council and the Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA), and features a map and details on the pub, such as whether they serve food or offer overnight accommodation.

Steve Thompson, chairman of Dud-

ley CAMRA, said: "The Dudley Real Ale Trail shows off some of the finest drinking pubs in the Dudley borough."

Breweries featured in the guide include Sadler's, Olde Swan, Craddock's, Black Country Ales, Kinver and Sarah Hughes.

The eight-page leaflet provides the contact details and websites for all the pubs, along with a picture and a short description of each pub.

The map highlights where each pub is in the borough, along with major roads and bus routes so drinkers can create their own ale trail to sample the best beers that Dudley has to offer.

The pub guide is also split into areas, such as Lower Gornal, Sedgley, Stourbridge and Lye, so the creation of a personalised ale trail is made even easier.

Popular pubs such as The Beacon Hotel in Sedgley, the Lamp Tavern in Dudley's High Street and The Starving Rascal in Amblecote are included in the guide.

Copies of the leaflet can be picked up from libraries, town halls, leisure centres, and visitor attractions in the borough, and Dudley Council Plus. It is also available for download from the www.discoverdudley.org.uk website.

£5m glass museum has won approval

THE £5 million redevelopment of a former glass factory has been welcomed by councillors who gave it the go-ahead on Monday.

The site of the former Stuart Crystal factory will be transformed into a museum celebrating the glass making heritage of the area, as well as including 18 apartments and several commercial units.

The application for the redevelopment in High Street, Wordsley, opposite the Red House Glass Cone, went in front of Dudley Council's development control committee, who unanimously voted to give the scheme the green light.

Councillor Qadar Zada, chair of the committee, said: "For me this application ticks all the right boxes."

"It's a welcome development for a building of high significance."

"It would bring in residential, visitors, education a welcome boost to the economy. I certainly look forward to seeing this once it is fully developed."

The scheme will create 23 jobs and it is hoped the museum will attract more than 500,000 per year.

The museum, which will have a modern glass front, is to face the Glass Cone. It scheduled to open in 2016.



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One in four children living in poverty

MORE than one in four children in Dudley are living in poverty, according to new figures.

In Sandwell it is worse, one in three at 34 per cent of youngsters defined as being in poverty. In Wolverhampton the figure is 33 per cent and in Walsall it is 32 per cent.

Dudley children fare better with a figure of 26 per cent (just over one in four).

All the Black Country is above the national average of 25.1 per cent.

The figures have been released by The Campaign to End Child Poverty and are based on tax credit data.

The highest number for childhood poverty in the West Midlands is Birmingham with 37 per cent of youngsters in poverty.

Chairman of End Child Poverty,

David Holmes, said: "These figures reveal just how widely and deeply child poverty reaches into our communities, even those areas generally regarded as well off.

"Far too many children whose parents are struggling to make a living are suffering as a result and missing out on the essentials of a decent childhood that all young people should be entitled to.

"We can and must do better for our children. Poverty ruins childhoods and reduces life chances. Failing to invest properly in children is a false economy — already child poverty costs the country £29bn each year and in the long run taxpayers will foot an even higher bill for correcting the damage."

The campaign is made up of more than 150 organisations.

Healthier lifestyles boost use of centres

THE NUMBER of people using leisure centres in Dudley is on the up, figures reveal.

There were around 1.27 million visits logged between April 2013 and March 2014.

The council runs sites in Dudley, Halesowen and Stourbridge. Bosses say increasing the range of activities on offer such as fitness classes and a £1.5million revamp of the gyms at the sites has helped to attract more people. They say families are also becoming more health conscious.

Engineering firm in move to new HQ

A COMPANY that makes pressings and press toolings is moving its main operation from Tipton to Dudley.

Moseley Brothers, which dates back to 1919, has bought a 33,000 sq ft factory on Blackbrook Valley Industrial Estate.

The £2.5 million expansion plans will see the company, which also supplies specialist engineering services, grow its national and international presence.

Jaguar

The company's automotive clients include Jaguar Land Rover and it also exports to countries including Germany, South Africa, China and Mexico.

It is set to make the move from Vaughan Trading Estate in Sedgley Road East later this year.

The expansion is being completed with support from accountants Chantrey Vellacott, the Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership's Regional Growth Fund —accessed through Sandwell Council — and funding from Lloyds Bank.

Sister company GF Laseer, one of the UK's premier laser cutting specialists, will also be re-locating to the new site.

The total number of visits went up from 1,231,326 in 2012/13 to 1,275,557 in 2013/14.

Halesowen Leisure Centre recorded 393,733 visits in 2012/13 and 399,688 in 2013/14. Dudley Leisure Centre saw visitor numbers go from 286,481 to 296,808.

Grow

Visits to the Crystal Leisure Centre went up from 551,112 to 579,061 last year.

Councillor Rachel Harris, cabinet member for health, said: "The popularity of our leisure centres continues to grow as more and more people opt for healthier lifestyles.

"People can choose from a wide range of activities including our state-of-the-art gyms, swimming pools and our packed programme of popular exercise classes at Dudley, Halesowen and Crystal leisure centres.

"Since our £1.5million investment in leisure centre gyms in 2008, membership has also soared from around 600 to 3,871."

Dudley Council closed one pool in 2009. Coseley Baths was shut despite a campaign by residents to save it from the bulldozer. At the time the authority said urgent work was needed to replace the electric and fire safety equipment and improve disabled access to the pool. They highlighted the number of alternative swimming pools, including a new £15m centre in Bilston.

First fight for women's fair pay



On the march for fair pay for women in a recreation of 1910's demonstrations

A REENACTMENT of the 1910 Cradley Heath women chainmakers' strike was held at the Black Country Living Museum on Saturday. Led by charismatic trade unionist Mary Macarthur, portrayed by Stourbridge woman Lynn Morris, a procession illustrated the womens' fight for a fair wage. Mrs Morris read out a victory speech to hundreds of visitors.

Among those in the parade were members of the Fizzogs and Open Door Theatre. Mrs Morris said: "Mary Macarthur was an

amazing woman. I think we don't see powerful role female models like here anymore. She stood up against the powers that be for those without a voice, and won.

"We have been doing this for several years and we find people come back again to see it and to connect with her. They want to be inspired by what she did." Deb Nicholls, from the Fizzogs, said: "I think for us, being from the Black Country and being women, it is important we remember events like this."

Hospital cleared on restraint allegations

RUSSELLS Hall Hospital has been cleared of any wrongdoing after it was accused of illegally restraining patients.

An investigation found no evidence of unlawful restraint at the Dudley hospital but bosses have been told ward and security staff could benefit from additional training.

The review was launched after the hospital's former head of security, John Marchant, made allegations over unlawful restraint of patients earlier this year.

Denied

He claimed staff had routinely forced vulnerable patients to stay in their rooms.

But a six-month investigation by the Dudley Safeguarding Children and Adults Boards found no evidence of this at the hospital.

Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust always strongly denied the allegations.

The probe was co-ordinated with reviews by the Care Quality Commission, the Clinical Commissioning Group and an independent review commissioned by the hospital.

The board included members from Dudley Council's social care team, West Midlands Police and Age UK.

Bag it up for heart charity

THE British Heart Foundation is appealing people to donate bags of unwanted clothes, books and bric-a-brac as part of a campaign.

The Halesowen shop is taking part in Bag It Beat It, raising money for the charity's life-saving heart research. Bags will be given out in the town's Cornbow Shopping Centre on Thursday, October 30.

The BHF is asking shoppers to fill a bag with clothes, shoes, books, handbags, DVDs, CDs, bric-a-brac and children's toys then take it to the BHF shop. See the bagit.bhf.org.uk website.

Free alert service

TENANTS can sign up to an alert service by Dudley Council to keep them updated. The free service will automatically send information about upcoming tenant and resident meetings and council information. Sign up at www.dudley.gov.uk/housingalerts

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Public take a look at Aldi store plans

PLANS for a supermarket bringing 40 jobs to a landmark site in Dudley went on display to the public.

Hundreds visited the exhibition of provisional plans for an Aldi to be built on the King Arthur site, on the Birmingham New Road.

The 'roadhouse' style public house was built in 1939 but has been empty since it closed in 2012.

The designs for the proposed store and 94-space car park were on show at St Francis Parish and Church Centre in Poplar Crescent in Dudley.

Thirty homes on warehouse site

ALMOST 30 homes will be built on the site of a former tile warehouse in Wordsley.

The scheme earmarked for land, off Marine Crescent, has been given the go-ahead by Dudley Council.

There would a total of 27 homes, a mixture of detached and semi-detached properties.

Two letters of objection were submitted to the council amid fears of increased traffic due to the development.

The warehouse was demolished in 2007.

Biblical theme for choir musical

TWENTY two members of Overend Methodist Mission choir have been rehearsing a musical entitled *Apostle*, by Birmingham composer Roger Jones.

Peter Fisher will sing the part of St Paul and Stephen Cornell will sing Ananias the priest. All are welcome to the performance in the church at Banners Lane at 6pm on Sunday. There is no admission charge but a collection will be made.

Slimming club to relaunch in Gornal

A SLIMMING club is set to relaunch next month.

The Slimming World club will take place every week at Straits Primary School in Lower Gornal, starting on November 12. Sessions run from 7pm to 8.30pm. The club is open to anyone aged 11 upwards.

Turn up on the night or contact Marion Woodhouse on 07887 594344.

Girl's TV dance

A GIRL from Sedgley was watched by millions of TV viewers in a sponsor's video for The X Factor on Saturday. Alder Coppice Primary pupil Amy Bates, 10, danced in a home video used by TalkTalk.

Wanted suspect arrested by police

ONE of the Black Country's most wanted men has been arrested after a huge manhunt lasting four months.

Donavon Wilson, of Sedgley, was arrested in Derbyshire and has now been charged with 13 offences.

Police said the net was also closing in on his alleged accomplice Omar Maitland, aged 20, from Wolverhampton.

Nineteen-year-old Wilson has now been charged with a robbery in Tipton, stealing petrol in Tipton, a burglary in Halesowen and three Wolverhampton robberies.

He has also been charged with an attempted burglary in Dudley, theft of a motor vehicle in Wolverhampton, theft of petrol in Wolverhampton, wounding in Tipton, aggravated taking of a vehicle in Tipton and a car key burglary in Codsall.

Police first issued a public appeal for Wilson after an alleged car jacking in Woodcross, Wolverhampton, on June 18, targeting a 38-year-old woman.

Wilson appeared before Wolverhampton magistrates' court on Saturday, after being arrested on Friday. He was due to appear at Sandwell magistrates' court yesterday (Wednesday).

Awards for young people

NOMINATIONS are open for the public to honour the achievements of young people in the borough.

Dudley Youth Awards celebrate the efforts of people aged from 11 to 19, or up to 25 for those with a disability.

There are six categories in the youth awards, organised by Dudley Youth Council, including arts, sport and contribution to school or college.

Nominations are open until November 7 and can be made via a form on Dudley Council website or forms available at libraries.

Education help

A NEW service has launched to make sure children with special educational needs or disabilities get the most from their education.

It replaces Dudley Parent Partnership and provides children and their parents with support including advice and workshops.

Angry residents want hospital bus service back

ANGRY residents were given the chance to voice their concerns to transport officials at a public meeting about the axing of an important bus route.

The service, which ran through Old Hill, Cradley Heath and Quarry Bank to Russells Hall Hospital, ended earlier in the summer.

Officials from National Express and Centro attended the meeting at Birch Coppice Methodist Church in Quarry Bank with Councillor Bryan Cotterill. The representatives outlined plans for a replacement bus

service but both residents and Councillor Cotterill say they are not happy as the route does not go make some important stops, particularly Russells Hall Hospital.

Janine Willetts, of Bath Road, Brierley Hill, who was a regular user of the service, said: "We know that running a bus service is expensive, but we were told that the old 297 service costs £100,000 to run, and then they were telling us that the new 289 service which they want to put in will cost £125,000. Where is the sense in that?"

"I would like the old service back but I don't care what they call it as long as it goes to the right stops. There are a lot of vulnerable people around here who are old or disabled and the changes will just leave them without a service."

The replacement 289 service will be in place by November 30.

Another resident, Mary Rousell, said: "About a fortnight ago I went to Russells Hall for a blood test but a round trip that should have taken me less than an hour

took me two because I had to go up to Merry Hill and then wait for another bus.

"There is not a bus which goes straight to the hospital any more and that is my concern. We have a lot of elderly people who use the service who find the getting on and off buses very confusing. We just want our bus back."

Babs Coombes, Centro Black Country area manager, said: "We are trying to make it as easy as possible for people to get a connecting service to the hospital."

Hundreds move home to avoid 'bedroom tax'

ALMOST 350 council tenants across Dudley borough have moved to smaller homes following the introduction of the controversial 'bedroom tax', new figures reveal.

There has been a rush by families to downsize in a bid to avoid a cut in housing benefits.

Since bedroom tax started in April 2013, a total of 349 tenants have requested a transfer. The figures also include older residents who have decided to downscale to a smaller home but are not affected by the tax.

Under welfare reforms, anyone in council or social rented housing faces a 14 per cent or 25 per cent cut in their housing benefit if they have one or more spare bedrooms - meaning families potentially paying hundreds of pounds extra a year in rent unless they move to a smaller home.

The bedroom tax is also known as under occupancy charge or the spare room subsidy.

Councillor Gaye Partridge, cabinet member for housing, said: "Since the introduction of the bedroom tax 18 months ago, a total of 349 council tenants have been able to move into smaller homes. Bedroom tax was introduced on April 1, 2013, and the figures run from then until September 30, 2014.

"It should be noted that not all transfers will have been as a result of the welfare reforms. For example, the figures will also include older people who are not

By Heather Large

subject to the bedroom tax but are moving to smaller, more manageable accommodation."

The bedroom tax has also been blamed for people falling behind on their rent payments. Figures released in August showed there were around 5,435 households in arrears across the borough and the total amount owed to the council was £1,405,690.

The council has been offering additional support to families struggling to make ends meet. There has also been increased demand for the council's mortgage advice service which has helped more than 350 people this year.

Figures released this year showed around 4,000 people on the waiting list for council properties in Dudley. Of these, 2,091 were hoping for a one-bedroom property and 1,420 for a two-bedroom with 584 seeking a three-bedroom or bigger property.

Kidney charity shop appeal

RESIDENTS are invited to donate items for a charity event next week.

Dudley Kidney Patients Association is holding its latest appeal for donations on Thursday, October 30, between 7pm and 9pm at the charity's shop at 806 High Street, Kingswinford.

Call the shop on (01384) 401111 for further details of the sort of items needed.



Christopher Timothy with stray dog Liam at the new veterinary hospital in Hall Street

Helping creatures — great and small

ACTOR Christopher Timothy, who famously played vet James Herriot, met creatures great and small when he opened a new veterinary hospital in Dudley.

The star, best known for hit television series *All Creatures Great and Small*, opened Black's new £500,000 centre in Dudley.

Big beasts came in the form of giant Irish wolfhounds but Christopher seemed to be particularly taken with tiny Liam, a cross-bred dog who was taken in as a stray earlier this week. "I like this little dog," said the 74-year-old actor, as he gave Liam a cuddle. He also donned a stethoscope and surgical gown to examine Barkley, an Alsatian, who has acted as a foster father to a litter of stray kittens.

He was joined by Mayor of Dudley Councillor Margaret Aston for the official launch of the new animal hospital.

Partner John O'Flynn said he had grown up with the TV series, which also starred Robert Hardy and Peter Davison.

The hospital in Hall Street extends the practice's existing surgery with four operating theatres, an X-ray room and new ultrasound scanning room.

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THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



MANY thanks to Daniela Liverani, 24, from Edinburgh who chose this week to volunteer the news that, having suffered from nosebleeds for some weeks, she finally discovered she had a three-inch leech living in one nostril. I think most of us would have kept that to ourselves.

MICHAEL McIntyre stormed off the stage when a woman persistently used her mobile phone. I sympathise, coming fresh from a birthday party where a hugely-talented couple performed a selection of blues and soul standards. They were excellent but 90 per cent of the guests simply ignored them, talking over the music and not even applauding at the end. The simple courtesies, such as the ability to shut our traps and listen, are fading fast.

SO what do drivers really make of "driver awareness" courses, offered as an alternative to penalty points on your licence? You can find plenty of drivers who sing their praises, but then their view may be tempered by thankfulness at keeping a clean licence. A dissident breaks ranks to tell me: "I attended one of these courses and all I got from it was pins and needles in my bum. It was a complete waste of time." He calculated that the fees paid by drivers at his session amounted to £2,000 per half day. The two men running the course insisted there was no profit, but he was not convinced.

JAMES Lusted was born with dwarfism and stands just 3ft 7ins, two feet shorter than his fiancée Chloe Roberts. They are a familiar site in their home city of Cardiff but the waitress in the local Harvester restaurant had never seen them before. So, in the best Harvester tradition, she seated the couple, gave Chloe a menu and picked up a kids' colouring book for the little chap. It was only when James spoke in his deep voice that she realised her mistake. She was embarrassed and Harvester are mortified. And the couple? Chloe and James think the whole incident was hilarious. It would have been so easy for them to be outraged and to demand payment for hurt, distress, loss of earnings and the pseudo-symptoms trotted out by compensation lawyers. Instead, they laugh it off. James says: "I am man enough to see the funny side." Pity there are not more blokes like him. Little guy, big man.

Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star

Afternoon of mayhem as storms batter area

ROADS were closed, damage caused and train services thrown into chaos as the West Midlands was battered by freak storms during an afternoon of mayhem.

Many rail commuters suffered nightmare journeys home after debris blown by the storm put overhead power lines out of action as the tail end of Hurricane Gonzalo swept through the area on Tuesday.

By Mark Andrews

Elsewhere, three people were killed and another five injured as winds of up to 108mph hit parts of Britain. In Rowley Regis, a couple spoke of their shock when a propeller from a wind turbine sliced through their hedge after being torn from its bearings by the storm.

All three propellers were ripped from the electricity generator at St Michael's High School in Curral Road. Emma Brewin was watching television at home in Ross Heights at the back of the school at around 6.30pm when she heard 'an almighty bang' outside.

"It sounded as though something had hit the house. Then I spotted that the wind turbine at the school about 100 yards away had gone, leaving just the pole. One of the propellers had come to land in next door's garden. I don't know where the other two are.

"We are just so lucky that it didn't come through the window. It is over 4ft long and very heavy."

Problems started at 3pm and were at their worst for around an hour. Birmingham Airport was not affected.

Players of the first degree



Jim Cadman with Brendon Batson and Cyrille Regis and students and staff from Sandwell College

THEY were the trailblazing stars of The Hawthorns who paved the way for black footballers.

Now West Brom's 'Three Degrees' have been honoured in a book helping a new generation learn of the trio's impact on British football.

It has been compiled by businessman Jim Cadman who is behind a project to create a statue in honour of Albion legends Cyrille Regis, Brendon Batson and Laurie Cunningham.

The Black Footballers Heritage Book brings together the life stories of around 50 players who have played their part in breaking down racial barriers.

From Arthur Wharton, the first black professional footballer to play in the Football League, right up to modern day stars like Albion forward Saido Berahino.

It has taken a year to bring the stories together thanks to football historians and Mr Cadman. Students from Sandwell College were also involved in helping with the research. The book has been published thanks to a Heritage Lottery grant

Aiming to open theatre in stages

CAMPAIGNERS hoping to save Dudley Hippodrome want to reopen the landmark building in phases.

The Friends of Dudley Hippodrome are to submit a business plan to Dudley Council aiming to bring the venue back into use. Friends member Gaz Sawers said rooms surrounding the auditorium would be opened to community groups. "We recognise the huge costs in modernising the venue to a standard it can be reopened, so we have come up with a phased opening," he said.

Dudley Council set a deadline for the Friends, along with company Events that Rok, to submit a business plan by the end of this month. Mr Sawers said they had not yet gained access to the site.

Officers say around £400,000 would have to be spent removing asbestos.

The council fears further deterioration and is prepared to see the building demolished.

Regeneration boss Councillor Judy Foster said: "We have told the group repeatedly over the last several weeks that they can access the building subject to their agreement to wear suitable protective clothing and to be accompanied by the council asbestos consultant. So far they have failed to come back to confirm either a date or who they wish to bring."



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Green supporters back book shop

A NEW not-for-profit book shop has opened in Dudley run by supporters of the Green Party.

Saturday Books is in Tower Street and was opened last week by Green Party prospective Parliamentary Candidate for Dudley South, Vicky Duckworth.

The shop will be open on Saturdays from 9am to 3pm.

A spokesperson said: "It's not a traditional retail outlet or a charity shop. Contributions of good quality books are welcome, and are paid for. This is a social enterprise, there to provide a service for Dudley shoppers, not make massive profits. It is staffed by volunteers, all of whom have an equal say in the running of the shop."

Region police top for stun gun use

POLICE officers in the West Midlands are firing Taser stun guns more than any other force in the county, latest figures show.

In six months, the shock guns were fired by regional officers on 120 occasions.

Metropolitan Police fired the guns 114 times, while Greater Manchester Police was the third highest with officers firing 90 times.

Staffordshire Police, meanwhile, fired 27 times and officers from West Mercia shot them on 16 occasions.

When it came to the amount of times Tasers were brandished, West Midlands was ranked the third highest force behind London's Met and Greater Manchester.

Hoard brought to life in new interactive display

By Andrew Turton

SOME of the world famous items from the Staffordshire Hoard are being brought to life in a new interactive exhibition.

Around 1.5 million people have been to see the hoard on display since it was discovered in a farmer's field in Hammerwich, near Lichfield, five years ago.

Now they can get a new perspective on this fascinating find as more than 300 ornate pieces go on display at Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery. The display will shine a light on conservation work to protect the precious finds.

Exquisite

The gold and silver items will be brought into focus using microscopes giving visitors a close up view of some of the Anglo Saxon treasure.

Touch screens and videos will allow people an even greater insight and help unlock the secrets over the designs and history of the 1,400-year-old objects.

Visitors can find out about the exquisite craftsmanship used to create the items and learn how the designs of the objects can be linked to many regions across Europe.

Many of the well known pieces will be on display including the folded cross, the Millefiori stud and sword pommels.

The display will become a per-



Get a close up view — conservation co-ordinator Pieta Greaves with a replica of a cross

manent home to many pieces from the Staffordshire Hoard, which has been on tour across the country.

The exhibition was developed with a £700,000 Heritage Lottery Fund grant.

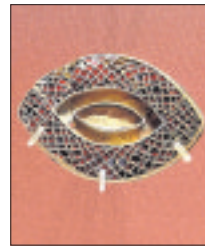
Birmingham Museum's director, Ellen McAdam, said staff were



Some of the many fragments of Anglo-Saxon treasure on display in the new Birmingham exhibition

will stage a range of themed games for children to help them discover more about that period.

The Staffordshire Hoard was discovered in 2009 by enthusiast Terry Herbert with his metal detector. Further items were excavated by archaeologists in 2012.



Eye shaped mount with cloisonne garnets



Hilt collar with an intricate filigree decoration

will stage a range of themed games for children to help them discover more about that period.

The Staffordshire Hoard was discovered in 2009 by enthusiast Terry Herbert with his metal detector. Further items were excavated by archaeologists in 2012.

European officers join road operation

OFFICERS from across Europe are linking with West Midlands Police for a week-long crackdown against foreign criminals using the roads network.

A contingent of officers from eight countries – including Romania, Lithuania and Poland – are joining forces in the region this week.

They will be targeting overseas drivers involved in crime or flouting the rules of the road during Operation Trivium.

The officers will be helping members of the Central Motorway Police Group on road-side operations and raids.

But they will also step in to support West Midlands force officers overcome practical obstacles, like language problems, and tap into their home country's police systems to verify details supplied by foreign nationals they question.

More than 2,800 foreign cars were stopped with 371 seized and 200 people arrested when Operation Trivium was last run nationally in March.

The operation also brings police officers from Latvia, Holland, Denmark, Finland and Ireland – alongside Europol and European roads policing group TISPOL – to Birmingham.

Superintendent Paul Keasey, who is leading the operation, said the action sends out a clear message to criminals from overseas.

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IN MY VIEW

with Mark Andrews

SOMETIMES you wonder whether the top brass of public sector organisations such as the BBC have been infiltrated by some cutting-edge comedy act, whose role is to provide endless satirical material to make life as easy as possible for us columnists.

For example, how else could one explain the recent report that old Auntie Beeb has blown £200,000 of licence-payers' money teaching its staff how to use iPhones?

Straight away, MP Philip Davies, who has turned BBC-bashing into something of an art form, was presented with an open goal. Predictably, he was quick to remark that if BBC staff were so stupid that they couldn't use an iPhone, then the corporation should probably change its recruitment process. And who could argue with that?

Except that I wouldn't know how to operate an iPhone either. And not because I am stupid – although, many will argue that may well be the case – but simply because I have never had cause to use one of the devices, and nobody has ever shown me.

However, I would hazard a guess that they usually come with some form of instruction booklet, so you would not think it beyond the wit of most BBC professionals to be able to read those before embarking on a £200,000 training programme.

And when I needed to use an iPad for the first time, I devised a particularly cost-efficient training programme which I think the BBC could learn from. I asked a technically savvy colleague to show me what to do, simply.

OF all the nations you might expect to come up with a solution to end all wars and bring everlasting world peace, I must concede that I never thought that the Russians and the Australians would figure highly.

But it looks like a spat between Australian premier Tony Abbott and Russia's Vladimir Putin has unwittingly come up with a way to resolve all future conflicts without armies ever having to take up arms against one another again.

London-born Abbott fired the opening salvo, saying he was going to 'shirt front' Putin over the shooting down of the M17 airliner, which claimed 38 Australian lives. Apparently, 'shirt-front' is Antipodean slang for charging a player in the chest in Aussie-ruled football, and is not considered sportsmanlike behaviour.

Anyway, not to be outdone, Putin has now reminded Abbott that while he might be good at cycling, it is the Russian leader who is the judo champion. Fight!

Wouldn't it be refreshing if, instead of sending thousands of young men to their deaths every time they had a disagreement, world leaders just settled their differences with a good old-fashioned fist fight, no innocent parties involved?



First World War pilot William Robinson Clarke



Gp Cpt Adolph Gysbert Malan and FS Vincent Bunting



Flight Lieutenant Trevor Edwards

Unsung pilots who rose to challenge

October is Black History Month and KIMBERLEY CRAYTON-BROWN tells of the volunteers of war

THEY are the little-known volunteers of war.

Thousands of black men and women from Africa, the Caribbean and Britain stepping forward to defend Britain, her Empire, and the Commonwealth in two world wars.

Unable to enlist because of a colour bar, relaxed before the Great War but quietly reimposed when the war ended, their help was again called on in 1939.

And now, coinciding with Black History Month, an exhibition highlighting their vital war efforts is on display at the Royal Air Force Museum at Cosford, telling the stories of the Pilots of the Caribbean - Volunteers of African Heritage in the RAF.

Diversity

Inspired by a photograph of two pilots posing with a Spitfire - one from Barbados, one from Trinidad - the exhibition highlights the air force's success in embracing diversity and 'demonstrates how the rich, cosmopolitan nature of modern Britain owes much to the black men and women who wore air force blue'.

Peter Devitt, assistant curator at the RAF Museum in London, said it all began in 2011 when they were asked to talk to a group of disadvantaged, black youngsters.

"It went very well until I showed them a picture of two black Spitfire pilots. It went dead quiet – and then the atmosphere became totally electric. I was bombarded with questions. They wanted to know everything about these men. One young man looked me straight in the eye and said: 'Why haven't we heard this before?'"

Museum trustee Brendan Connor also



Flying Officer Arthur Weekes and Flight Sergeant Collins Joseph

recalled the reaction to the black Battle of Britain pilots: "They were completely bowled over; they had never seen it before.

"It was not part of their history and we suddenly realised that we hadn't told a story which needs to be told."

The photograph is the centrepiece of the exhibition, telling a story that started 100 years ago with display boards, photographs, video and memorabilia, and has been put together in partnership with the Black Cultural Archives.

Eve, 1944. Trained at Piarco, and a volunteer from Trinidad ETS, his Spitfire went missing at 1530 hours on December 31 during an air operation between Liege and Aachen.

The pair were two of many role models who played an integral part in the development of the air force, Peter Dye, director general of the Royal Air Force Museum, said: "From First World War pilot William Robinson Clarke, to the young volunteers of today, Afro-Caribbean men and women have played an integral part in the development of the Royal Air Force and the defence of our freedoms and liberties.

"In this exhibition, the Royal Air Force Museum aims to celebrate their contribution to the development of modern Britain, while providing all young people with a series of role models to inspire and guide them in realising their own ambitions and dreams."

Numbers

As the volunteers were fully integrated into the service and their ethnic origin not entered on their personnel records, the exact number of black volunteers who have served in the RAF is unavailable.

It is estimated 6,000 volunteers from West Indies communities, such as Barbados and Jamaica, served in the RAF during the Second World War. Of those, about 400 were air crew, either in Bomber Command, Coastal Command, or Fighter Command - which saw the first black volunteers selected to train as fighter pilots in 1941. Bomber Command had four-fifths of African-Caribbean aircrew in active service.

Volunteers served with all UK-based RAF commands, with the exception of Transport Command, which visited countries intolerant of integrated crews.

Of the thousands of volunteers, about 150 were killed in training or combat operations. Over 100 were awarded gallantry medals.

WEEK IN POLITICS

with Daniel Wainwright

IT is absolutely right that UKIP's Nigel Farage should be included in an ITV debate between party leaders in the run up to the General Election.

But so, too, it is correct for there to be a head to head on Sky and Channel 4 between David Cameron and Ed Miliband without Mr Farage or Liberal Democrat Nick Clegg present. The Tory and Labour leaders are the only ones who stand a chance of being Prime Minister next year.

The viewing public need be reminded of the real heads or tails choice they face in at least one of those debates.

What is particularly galling for some politicians is the plan of the BBC to hold a debate including Mr Clegg but excluding Mr Farage as well as the leaders of other parties, such as the Greens and Respect, all of whom like UKIP currently have at least one MP.

The Liberal Democrats are a busted flush, according to UKIP MEP Bill Etheridge. He said: "If anything, it should be the Lib Dems arguing to keep their place in the debates, not UKIP arguing to be given one."

He has a point. The Lib Dems lost their deposit in no fewer than seven by-elections since 2010. There are parts of the West Midlands where they did not even bother standing in council elections.

They might well be a party of government, but they have no more chance of winning a majority than any of the minor parties. As such, Nick Clegg deserves to be relegated to a debate with the minor parties.

Better still, he and Mr Farage should go head to head as the ones whose parties the opinion polls indicate are currently vying for third place.

There is every chance Nigel Farage could be as much of a kingmaker next year as Nick Clegg was in 2010.

What their parties demand in exchange for their support in the event of a hung Parliament could change the future of Britain.

IN Westminster, the Tories love to claim all the credit for the recent good news on unemployment. Yet their opposition leader on Wolverhampton City Council suggests there are not quite the reasons to be cheerful there should be.

Wendy Thompson is unhappy the city has the highest percentage of people claiming Jobseekers' Allowance and calls on the Labour council to do more, saying she does not want its recent business week to be dismissed as 'hot air'.

Councillor Thompson is to be congratulated for her willingness to speak truth to power, even if she ends up on the wrong side of her own party line. But if things do get better, something tells me David Cameron and George Osborne won't share credit with Labour-run Wolverhampton City Council.

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by Peter Whelan

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Were original bosses under-employed?

RE council directors wrangle. Councillors D Sparks, P Lowe and S Turner's defence of this proposal does raise further questions such as, are the existing management to be offered the opportunity to apply for these new positions and are those being offered new positions. Will the original support teams and managers that the original council officers (directors/assistant directors) used still be in place?

Councillor Sparks states that to attract people to these jobs, substantial salaries need to be paid. So, will these new three

strategic directors and 17 assistant directors guarantee to cope with the work in the same time that a previous larger number of directors and their assistants required?

If so, then the original incumbents were under-employed and the council taxpayers did not receive value for money.

Who can say that will not happen again, especially if they are selected by the same interviewers that approved of the original incumbents?

G H DOWNING
Brierley Hill

Odd number plate events

HAVE I missed a change in the law?

Motorcycles don't require front number plates, fair enough, but has anyone else noticed the number of cars driving around with the front number plate missing? They can usually be noticed lying flat on the dashboard against the wind screen, impossible to read.

The fact that most of the offenders are 'boy/girl racer' types leads me to think this is the latest in a string of things done to look cool, but why do these people never appear to get stopped?

I notice them all the time, even though it is really none of my business.

With number plate recognition being used more to check for insurance, tax and MOT, is this a way of avoiding detection?

R GWILLIAMS
Brierley Hill

Right to fine dog owner

I REFER to an article where a Quarry Bank man was initially handed an on-the-spot fine of £75 for allowing his dog to foul in a park in April. The person refused to pay and failed to attend the court. The court fined him in total in his absence more than £460.

Councillor Hillary Bills said: "This sends a clear message out that we will not tolerate people allowing the dogs to foul our parks and open spaces". I agree with the councillor's remarks, providing that we get the money from this person?

B WHITEHOUSE
Kingswinford

Hospitals won't cope with Ebola

I HEAR on the news that certain hospitals are being geared up in case of an outbreak of Ebola in the UK.

With so many smaller hospitals being closed down in favour of super hospitals with fewer beds than those being closed, I wonder how this country will cope in the event of an outbreak.

Would this mean that general illnesses which should be treated by hospitalisation would not be able to be dealt with in hospital with the possible loss of life?

Is it not time that hospitals were staffed with more frontline troops at the expense of non-medical employees and the closure of many of the older hospitals stopped? The old hospitals can be renovated and put to good use. An example of this is the Queen Elizabeth where the old hospital has had to be brought back into use because of lack of space in the new hospital. What about Sandwell and City hospitals when the proposed Midland Metropolitan Hospital is up and running?

L HALES
Cradley Heath

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POST

Dudley Chronicle,
Chronicle Editorial,
51-53 Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

E-MAIL

Dudley.chron@
expressandstar.co.uk

Referendum is no answer over mosque

IN answer to the letter from Mr Etheridge MEP, I am undoubtedly one of the politicians he referred to as failing miserably to deal with the mosque issue in Hall Street.

I did not sit on any fence suggesting a shuffle away from real responsibility but dared put my head above the parapet and fully supported the vast majority of local voters without any question.

I also collected nearly 85,000 signatures, most at my own personal expense! For that I was rewarded with the loss of my political career, position within that party I represented after years of hard work building it from nothing and de-selection as their Parliamentary candidate having obtained

the highest number of votes in their own league table at the previous General Election.

I was not at all surprised to read your headlines regarding the two councillors Turner. I know what was endured by the two.

Hard work and maximum effort has got the giant unwanted edifice rejected to date and to even suggest a local referendum is a sign of spineless book passing.

Let's see if Labour will fall for a proper metropolitan area referendum or if they argue the case for the immediate area of the proposed development with the prospect of a Muslim vote of around 45 per cent with the inevitable result.

MALCOLM DAVIS
Dudley

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Man, 24, is jailed over cannabis plants haul

A MAN who leased an industrial unit in Halesowen which was used for growing cannabis has been jailed for 20 months.

Officers found 368 cannabis plants when they raided the premises in Halesowen leased to Michael Teji, Wolverhampton Crown Court was told.

Mr Howard Searle, prosecuting, said officers searched the unit in Belfont Trading Estate, Mucklow Hill, on February 10. "It was apparent the building was being used for the production of cannabis," he said.

Mr Searle said Teji, of Cannington Road, Dagenham, East London, was not present at the time police raided the premises, but handed himself in the following day.

"He took out a lease on that part of the building, paying a £2,000 deposit and then rent of £700 a month," said Mr Searle, adding that the plants would have yielded cannabis with a street value of between £100,000 and £300,000.

Miss Rebecca Wade, representing 24-year-old Teji, said her client had no previous convictions or cautions, and presented a number of character references.

"He was the first member

By Mark Andrews

of his family to go to university, and after leaving university he got a job in PC World," said Miss Wade. "He also ran football training and coaching sessions and during that he injured his hand, which caused him to lose his employment. That cost him his self-esteem, and caused him to smoke cannabis."

Miss Wade said Teji was now clear of drugs. "He has found himself employment as an ambulance care assistant with the ultimate goal of becoming a paramedic," she added.

"It was clearly not a sophisticated act on his part, he got the lease on the property with the contract details in his real name."

Teji was ordered to pay a £100 victim surcharge.

X-tra special role in Grand musical



X Factor star Alexandra Burke is to take the leading role in the musical The Bodyguard on tour next year

X FACTOR star Alexandra Burke will play the lead role in The Bodyguard at the Grand Theatre in Wolverhampton and Birmingham Hippodrome next year.

The chart-topping singer said it was an honour to be taking the tour of the hit West End show around the country.

Wolverhampton's Beverley Knight earned rave reviews for her performance as Rachel Marron in the London show. And now Burke, who won X Factor in 2005 and has since topped the singles chart three times, will look to make the role her own.

Excited

She said: "I couldn't be happier to be joining the tour and I'm excited to get started. Being on the theatre stage has brought me great happiness. It is an honour to have been asked to join the team and I look forward to creating new and long lasting memories with the cast."

The Bodyguard comes to the Grand Theatre from April 21 to May 2 and Hippodrome from August 5 to 29. It is based on the 1992 film starring Whitney Houston.



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'Moonwalk' antics by witness halts court case

A MAN convicted of killing his girlfriend in Crete has been cleared of attacking a man in a pub after a witness was filmed doing a Michael Jackson 'moonwalk' while waiting to give evidence.

Luke Walker, who is appealing his conviction of killing his girlfriend Chelsea Hyndman in Crete, stood trial last week with friend Luke Seeley over the alleged incident at Tenth Lock pub in Brierley Hill. But on the third day of the trial the case against the pair dramatically collapsed after a video of the witness doing the dance was spotted on Facebook.

The footage, which was filmed and uploaded by another witness involved in the case, showed the man wearing a glove and holding his groin while doing the dance.

The Crown Prosecution Service said the witnesses' action undermined the case.

In court, no further evidence was offered and Judge John Warner directed not guilty verdicts from the jury.

Mr Warner told the witnesses involved in the pub episode: "You are liable to prosecution for a criminal offence or contempt of court. That decision has not yet been made but you will have to come back to the court. I would advise you to seek legal advice."

One of the witnesses said the film had been made because they were bored. He said: "I filmed him as he did the Moondance. He was holding his groin and we were both laughing. There were 17 conversations about the film on Facebook."

"I did not know I was not allowed to do it. It was a joke."

The witness who was filmed dancing also said it had been a joke.

Walker, aged 26, of Gayfield Avenue, and Seeley, 26, of Channon Drive, both Brierley Hill, had been accused of at-



'Massive relief' — Luke Walker outside Wolverhampton Crown Court tacking an 18-year-old in the men's toilet of the pub on November 9 last year.

The jury heard from three prosecution witnesses, including the alleged victim. He claimed he was set upon by the pair after walking into the pub toilets with two friends. He was taken to hospital, where the jury heard he was treated for a gash to his forehead.

Both Seeley and Walker denied the charge, claiming they had been acting in self-defence. But before evidence could be brought forward by the defence, the case was dropped and placed on file.

Walker is currently on bail after he was convicted of causing grievous bod-



Chelsea Hyndman, 20, was killed on the Greek holiday island of Crete

ily harm to 20-year-old Chelsea Hyndman, leading to her death in Crete four years ago. He was sentenced to eight years in prison but the sentence was suspended pending the appeal.

Walker described the decision to drop the case as a 'massive relief'.

A spokesman from West Midlands Crown Prosecution Service said: "As a result of significant inconsistencies in the evidence given to the court by the three key witnesses at the trial of Luke Walker and Luke Seeley, combined with their conduct in the witness waiting room which gave the impression that they were not taking the trial process seriously, the prosecution team reviewed the case."

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Fun-loving teacher who influenced many pupils

A TEACHER who worked in Dudley and Stourbridge schools, as well as in Switzerland and Nigeria, has died aged 81.

Barbara Jew, of Whittington Road, Norton, was much loved by her pupils at Wollescote Primary and Rufford Primary Schools, both Stourbridge, and at Highgate Primary, Holly Hall, where she was deputy head.

She had a great love of poetry and music and led her young students on many successful expeditions to festivals for performing arts. She also played roles in several plays staged at Stourbridge Town Hall.

African

Born in Netherton to Ted and Eva Lucas, she attended Dudley Girls High School and qualified at teacher training college in Leeds. She went to work at a finishing school in Switzerland, where she taught in fluent German to young ladies among them, princesses and the daughters of millionaires and aristocrats from across the world.

She married Bob Jew, from Halesowen, and joined her husband in Nigeria, where he was a cocoa bean buyer for Rowntree Fry & Cadbury. They were living in the African 'bush' when she became pregnant with their first child, Louise, born in 1957. "She was a very brave lady, it must have been so scary for a young mum-to-be miles from anywhere in the African bush," said Louise, a journalist.

Barbara returned to England to have her second child, Nigel, who was born in Sedgley in 1958. The family moved back to Nigeria in 1962, spending two years in the towns of Warri and Aba. She taught in several African schools and in the afternoons would teach European children, including Louise and Nigel, on the veranda at her home.

Returning to Stourbridge, Barbara



Sense of fun - deputy head Barbara Jew on roller skates at Highgate Primary worked first at Wollescote Primary, then at Rufford Primary and finally at Highgate Primary, before retiring in her mid 50s. Barbara had a great sense of fun and, when she mentioned to her class at Highgate that she needed roller skates because the corridors between classrooms were so long, one of the pupils presented her with a pair.

She and Bob, 84, had been married for 58 years and have four grandchildren — Luke, doing his doctorate in astro physics at Oriel College, Oxford, Eva, studying illustration at Brighton,

Joe, a hairdresser, and Danny, studying maths at Leeds University. Son Nigel, aged 57, who is a business coach, said: "We know that our mum had a wonderfully nurturing influence on the lives of the hundreds of young people she taught."

Barbara died at Russells Hall Hospital on October 10. A celebration of her life will be held at Stourbridge Crematorium on October 31 at 11.40am, when family and friends are invited to wear a flower and dress in their Sunday best of any colour.

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COMPETITION

Shows set to give a taste of Christmas

WITH more than 150 exhibitors and 1,000 competition entries, Cake International – The Sugarcraft, Cake Decorating and Baking Show is the largest of its kind and is set to be the best yet – and Chronicle readers have the chance to go for free.

Returning this autumn to the NEC from November 7-9, the event will showcase a host of exciting exhibitors and features to inspire budding bakers and 'wow' just about anyone with the incredible creations on display. The show will be opened by chocolatier Will Torrent.

Crafted especially for Cake International Birmingham, the Cake Grotto will be a staggering 10ft long Christmas extravaganza complete with edible rocking horses and reindeer.

Sponsored by the Birmingham-based cake board company, Dummies Direct, the Grotto will be a delight to behold for children and adults alike.

And there is another chance to experience the magic of Christmas next month at the Crafts for Christmas and Hobbycrafts at the NEC, Birmingham from November 6-9. The popular festive show offers a treasure trove of gifts and treats. From jewellery to board games, handcrafted toys to decorations, the Christmas offering is endless.

A schedule of fantastic workshops and demonstrations will take place throughout each day of the show. Visitors will learn how to create handmade Christmas decorations to add some festive cheer to the home.

The Chronicle is offering 90 readers the chance to win a pair of tickets (please specify show choice).

To book show tickets call 01425 277988.



Lots of Christmas craft ideas

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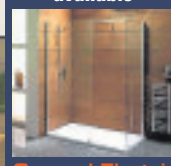
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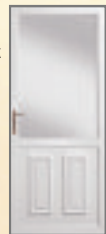
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Brigadier General John Vaughan Campbell addressing troops from the Riqueval Bridge



Brigadier General John Vaughan Campbell led the victory



Troops making their way over the Riqueval Bridge during the battle

Lecturer tells how the war was won by Staffordshire Brigade

IT was a key moment in the lead-up to victory in the First World War, according to the Allied Commander-in-Chief and 'the blow from which there could be no German recovery'.

And it was delivered by thousands of Staffordshire soldiers who had previously only been trusted with routine operations. The 137 (Staffordshire) Brigade's heroics in breaking the Hindenburg Line at Bellenglise, France is often overlooked. Now a military expert is attempting to redress the balance to make sure the soldiers get the recognition they deserve.

Troops needed to get across the St Quentin Canal, which at some points was 6ft deep but also had thick mud in sections that had begun to dry out.

By capturing the bridge, they could push back the German line to the point where they had no room for manoeuvre. But they were hampered by dense fog and fierce enemy attacks. Last week, Dr John Bourne,

MEMORY LANE

By Adam Burling

from Burslem held a lecture entitled 'How Staffordshire Won the First World War' at the university campus in Stafford.

He is a vice-president of the Western Front Association, a member of the British Commission for Military History and a fellow of the Royal Historical Society and he ranks the achievements of the Brigade as among the greatest in modern military history.

In the years before the First World War Staffordshire showed staunch support for the recently-created Territorial Force.

The first TF division to deploy to France, 137 Brigade suffered cruelly in the attack on the Hohenzollern Redoubt on October 13, 1915, which was the worst day of the war for casualties in Staffordshire, and again at Gommecourt on July 1, 1916.

But on September 29 the Brigade broke the Hindenburg Line at Bellenglise, which

was where the German army had retreated to. Dr Bourne says it was 'one of the most spectacular feats of arms on the Western Front'.

It was described by Marshal Foch, the Allied Commander-in-Chief, as the 'blow from which there could be no German recovery'. The Brigade had 4,000 men at full strength but the influenza pandemic had hit numbers.

Dr Bourne said: "The Hindenburg Line was not really a line at all, it was a dense position full of barbed wire, machine gun nests, drop out points and bunkers, with masses of artillery."

"The division had to cross the Riqueval Bridge at St Quentin and they had a pretty bad time of it."

"They had very little powerful artillery and there was thick fog. The vast majority of the men could not swim so they got across the water by suspending a chain across and swinging from it. But the bridge was the best way to get across, though it was being strongly defended."

A key element was the capture of the Riqueval Bridge by a group led by Captain Humphrey Charlton, a Kings Bromley vicar's son. He had joined the Veterinary Corps, was called up to join the conflict in 1915 and led an inspiring against the odds victory.

The Brigade's most famous leader was Brigadier General John Vaughan Campbell, who was later awarded the Victoria Cross for his actions during the Battle of the Somme in 1916 when he rallied his men and led them against the enemy machine-guns, capturing the guns and killing the personnel.

Aged 40 at the time, an image of him addressing thousands of troops from the Riqueval Bridge shows the sheer scale of the operation.

The Brigade prevented the German troops blowing up the bridge by bringing down the rows of men showering them in a hail of machine gun fire. It meant they could cross the bridge and push the German army even further back.



Dr John Bourne, who put together a lecture on the subject

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Oliver left the audience calling for more please



The cast of South Staffs Musical Theatre Company's production with 10-year-old James Shaw as Oliver!

Oliver! Wolverhampton Grand

It was not just Oliver Twist left wanting more when South Staffs Musical Theatre Company presented this rollicking production of one of Britain's best loved musicals.

Lionel Bart's retelling of Charles Dickens' story about Victorian London low-lives was given full justice by an amateur company whose ability matched their ambition and enthusiasm for the show.

Often non-professional productions are hampered by the variable quality of performances but not this one. This was an ensemble effort in which everyone emerged with credit, particularly director and choreographer Maria Shee and musical director Phil James.

Performers adopted their best Cockney accents, with varying success, and sang with gusto. However, some stars shine a little brighter than others, so take a bow Lexie Bennett. As Nancy she acted with conviction and emotion, then got the biggest applause of the night with her showstopping performance of As Long As He Needs Me.

She is one to watch for in the future, as is young Ollie Hart-Bradford, every inch the pint-sized geezer as the Artful Dodger. James Shaw was sweet-voiced and delicate as a very young Oliver, although he showed his feisty side by really laying into Andrew Newton's loud-mouthed bully Noah Claypole.

James Collins played a gruff Bill Sykes with serious anger management issues, his assaults on Nancy so brutal that one wondered if one should leap to her aid with an intervention. Perhaps he was upset that his dog Bullseye was such a scene stealer, timing his barks for maximum impact.

Fine comic support came from Alf Rai as Mr Bumble paired with Veronica Bould's waspish Widow Corney, John Wiley and Sheila Wood as the gloomy Sowerberrys, and Greg Yates in a lovely cameo as the pompous Dr Grimwig. Roger Stokes was a dependable Mr Brownlow and Mike Thomas teased poignancy as well as comedy out of the role of Fagin.

SSMTC are going to have to pull out all the stops to top this with their next production.

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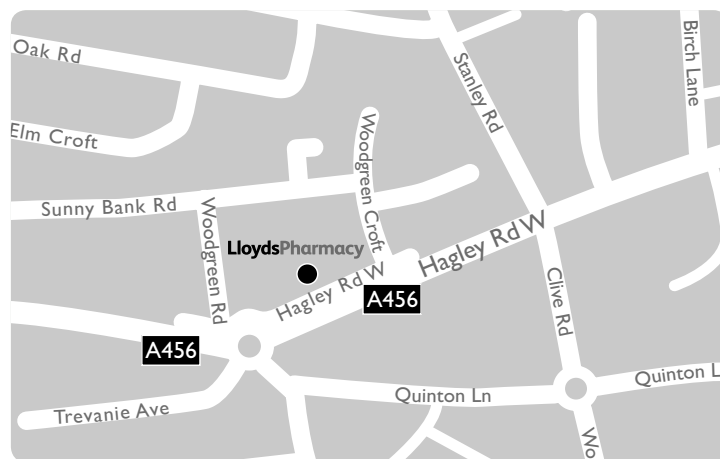
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16 Family are worried for Beata, 18

THE older sister of a missing girl has spoken of her concern since her disappearance.

Beata Koguciuk, 18, was last seen after she left her home in Western Road, Cradley Heath, on the morning of September 27. Her family says she has left behind her mobile phone and bank cards. They are concerned for her welfare.

The former Perryfield High School pupil moved to the Midlands from Poland with her family around eight years ago. She is described as a 'bubbly outgoing' girl with 800 pals on Facebook. Her sister Ewa, 21, said her disappearance was out of character and had left the family baffled and concerned. "She has never gone missing before now," Ewa said.

Beata, or anyone who has seen her, should call police on 101.

Top new roles for students

TWO students have been appointed as head boy and head girl at Ormiston Forge Academy.

Head boy Bradley Joynes, aged 17, from Cradley Heath, said: "I want to be part of the ongoing success of the academy." Head girl Abbie Horton, aged 18, from Rowley Regis, advised pupils to get involved in a variety of activities.

Principal Andrew Burns said: "The selection of Brad and Abbie as head boy and girl is a great choice."

FOCUS ON CRADLEY & CRADLEY HEATH

Manager says market sale could be a positive move

A MARKET which went into receivership and was threatened with closure is now going up for sale.

Cradley Heath Market, which also includes 24 surrounding shop fronts in the town, is going on sale with auctioneers Allsop, with a guide price which is put at £600,000.

But market manager Pete Cope, who earlier this year denied that the market would close due to financial difficulties broke, said he remains positive about the future.

Customers

"The best case scenario here is that the new owners will come in and inject some capital into the market so we can get to work attracting new traders and, of course, customers," Mr Cope said.

"We would also be able to open up the other half of the market, which we are currently using for storage."

"I have been here 17 years and I can say for sure that you get out what you put in. I am very positive about it."

Traders in the market have mixed feelings about the plans and say they have been left in the dark about the future of the pitches.

Stephen Morton, who runs an underwear stall in the main market, said: "I do have a worry that the

person or group who comes in and buys the market will not see the need for it and get rid of it."

"This stall was originally my daughter's and it's been here for 10 years. It would be sad to see the market go."

Gary Link, who has worked on the same fish stall for 23 years, said he believes that traders and local residents alike should be more positive about the future.

"At the moment I think it is exciting," Mr Link said. "The former owners weren't local and I don't think they took much of an interest."

"They didn't know the area and just bought it and hoped for the best."

He added: "It would be great if the new owners came in and gave the place a revamp and maybe get a few more shops full."



'I love every day of the job' — dog groomer Vicky Pell with Cockerpoo Poppy

Thirty years of fashions at pet parlour

IT started with spaniels and poodles but today it's about labradoodles and cockapoos.

Dog grooming parlour owner Victoria Pell has seen changing trends of dog breeds over the years. She expects many more before she final bow-wows out after 30 years running Vicky's Dog and Cat Grooming Parlour in Quarry Bank.

"Dog breeds started off simply when I started, now we're seeing all sorts of mixed breeds," she said.

"People are going for the dogs which are different and many of them are very pretty. Some of them follow breeds like designer fashions. It certainly makes it interesting."

Mrs Pell began grooming pets while at school aged 12, in Cradley Heath and Quinton. She moved to her current High Street site 21 years ago and employs three people. She added: "I love every day of the job and I'm staying on here a while yet."

Volunteers recruited to go on patrol

VOLUNTEERS have been recruited to patrol the streets in a fresh crack-down on anti-social behaviour and vandalism.

A team is working with police as part of the Cradley Street Watch scheme. They carry out unpaid civilian street patrols in pairs for a minimum of two hours a month. The Cradley team is made up of five members, managed by local co-ordinator, David Sadler, with the Cradley and Wollescote neighbourhood policing team.

Volunteers also work to help improve their neighbourhoods while on patrol by identifying and reporting issues like graffiti to the council. They attend regular meetings with neighbourhood Sergeant Alex Sobolewski, who is responsible for policing the area.

For information visit www.west-midlands.police.uk or call police on 101.

Dog mess in park tackled

PATROLS have been carried out in a Cradley Heath park to tackle the dog mess menace

As part of the Safer 6 crime crackdown, the council has been at Haden Hill Park handing out hundreds of bags in a bid to encourage pet owners to clear up after their animal.

A £75 fine was given to one walker who failed to clean up after their dog. Action will be taken against pet owners who allow dog fouling, chiefs have vowed.

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History afloat for trust's open weekend on the canal

THE history of the Black Country canals was showcased by Stourbridge Navigation Trust.

Hundreds of people indulged in the region's culture at the trust's 31st annual open weekend next to the Bonded Warehouse in Canal Street, Stourbridge.

On both Saturday and Sunday, more than 100 canal boats were moored in the Stourbridge Extension Canal for visitors to see.

Cargo

From pleasure boats to cargo boats, people were able to learn about their history as well as information on the canals from the owners.

Visitors also took the opportunity to go on canal boat trips, including Mayor of Dudley Councillor Margaret Aston.

As well as the narrow boats, there were displays of traction engines, classic cars and fairground organs.

A craft fair was also held, plus a bar was on site with a cafe inside the Bonded Warehouse selling warming soups and ploughman's lunches.

Cliff Sherwood had his cargo boat, the Bellatrix, on show.

The boat was built in 1835 in Cheshire and was used to transport coal for the Grand Union Canal Company.

Mr Sherwood, who is from Wall Heath, purchased the boat 49 years ago. He uses it to travel the country's canals, going as far as London.

He said: "It's a pleasure coming to events like this and seeing old friends as well as meeting new ones."



Visitors admire the narrowboats at Stourbridge Navigation Trust's open weekend on the canal

More money to be spent on families

TROUBLED families in Dudley will have extra cash spent on them to tackle problems such as anti-social behaviour and truancy.

The council has been granted £2,000 per family to stop problems being passed from generation to generation. Around 2,500 families in the borough are set to benefit.

Dudley Council is one of only two authorities in the West Midlands to be awarded more Government funding towards its 'troubled families' programme.

Around 750 families were offered help during the first two years of the scheme and now the authority has revealed that it hopes to support a further 2,500.

It will also reach out to families with a broader range of problems including those dealing with domestic violence to younger children who need help with a range of physical and mental health problems.

Councillor Tim Crumpton, cabinet member for children's services, said: "The extra funding will allow more families in Dudley to benefit from the programme with further support for families affected by domestic violence and those suffering with a range of health problems."

Boss says big salary roles help the borough

THE leader of Dudley Council says plans to streamline director roles will help transform the borough from a 'sleeping giant'.

Councillor David Sparks spoke after the council voted in favour of plans to reduce director roles at the council from 22 to 11, saving £1 million.

However the proposals will also see the remaining positions receive an increased salary of around £30,000 more per year, which many councillors were opposed to.

Councillor Sparks said major changes at the top would mean the council would have a better focus.

He said: "Dudley is larger than most cities in the UK and for too long it has been a sleeping giant.

"It is about time our voice was heard."

Strategic

Five directors earning £104,604 per year, who are in charge of departments and report to the chief executive, will be replaced by three 'strategic' directors.

The new 'strategic director for people' who manages children's services, adult social care, health and well being, will receive a salary between £122,500 and £130,000.

Salaries for the other two positions — director of resources and transformation and director for the environment, economy and housing — will be around £117,000 and £127,000.

Seventeen assistant directors, currently earning £70,049 a year, will be replaced by eight chief officers earning £89,000.

Speaking out against the

By Charlie Benton

proposals, Conservative group leader Councillor Patrick Harley said: "When we have a council that pays some of its staff less than the minimum wage, when we have a council that employs a record amount of people of zero hours contracts, then now is not the time to reward those at the top of the pay scale."

Councillor Pete Lowe claimed UKIP's stance on the salary increase had changed.

He said: "Councillor Ken Turner was previously clear in his stance as group leader and now with a new leader comes a new position.

"They are playing to popular opinion."

The current UKIP group Leader Councillor Paul Brothwood refuted the claim and said: "I want to underline that UKIP is totally opposed to the approved increases to fat cat salaries at Dudley Council.

"Our objections to these increases can be seen in previous committee meetings."

Success for creative art outlook on life

TWO artists from the Black Country have won a competition inspired by a mother who lost her daughter to depression.

Ann-Monique Stellinga, from Halesowen, and Sabrina Jones, from Dudley, were announced as winners of the Dawn Jones Art Prize last week. The competition is run by Dudley and Walsall Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust.

In its ninth year, the prize was set up by Maureen Jones in memory of her daughter, Dawn Jones, who committed suicide in 2005 at the age of 25 following depression.

Sabrina said: "I really didn't think I was going to win. It was a great feeling, as it was something I never thought I'd achieve." Ann-Monique added: "A close friend's recent suicide hit me very hard, and I had about a year of depression. Fortunately, art has helped me find a positive outlook on life."

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Lady Gaga, NIA, Birmingham
LADY Gaga gets the applause from her Little Monsters, as she calls her fans, but her spectacular two-hour show lacked momentum.
This is partly because Gaga likes to jaw jaw. Her homilies on creativity, self-belief and equality turn into sermons. Surely she must know she is preaching to the converted.
I wonder how many in the audience would have preferred to have heard

Judas performed in full, rather than blended into Aura, or a complete The Edge of Glory, rather than the snippet we got. However. Just Dance, Poker Face and Bad Romance were fantastic.
Gaga's outfits included a mermaid bikini, a cross between a Dalmatian and an octopus, a girl out of a Japanese comic and, in homage to Cher as she covered Bang Bang, a curly brown wig and red leather jacket. Often she was wearing a lot less.

She wrapped herself in a Union Flag thrown on stage by a fan and at the piano Lady showed her vocal power with a stunning performance of the ballad Dope. She read out an emotional letter from a fan called Jason before bringing him and his boyfriend on stage to serenade them with a slow version of Born This Way. Moments for Little Monsters to treasure. Lady Gaga is back at the NIA on November 13.
Leon Burakowski

Lakeman whips up the energy

Seth Lakeman
Town Hall, Birmingham
IF you want someone to whip a crowd into a frenzy using horsehair then Seth Lakeman is your man.
The Devonshire singer's Word of Mouth tour arrived in the second city with the thumping track, The Courier.

Straight away Lakeman showed his signature style of hammering his fiddle like a scout frantically trying to start a fire using two sticks.
This set the pace for most of the night which was, apart from a few slow ones in King & Country, Shores of Normandy and Portrait of My Wife - which he did as a duet with Lisbee Stainton, high energy and full of musical enthusiasm.

The audience were itching to get out of their seats and with The Colliers Lakeman finally let them off the leash and there was dancing in the aisles.

Lakeman went out as his came in with all guns blazing with Kitty Jay and Blood Upon Copper even throwing support act Kim Churchill into the mix.

Danny Farragher

REVIEWS



Michael Legge as George and Benjamin Dilloway as Lennie

1930s tragedy that still packs a punch

Of Mice And Men, Birmingham Rep
JOHN Steinbeck's tragic tale of broken dreams in 1930s rural America still packs a punch in this stark and brutally effective production at The Rep.

The story is based on the relationship between a pair of migrant agricultural workers. Fast-talking dreamer George looks after his slow-witted but strong companion Lennie, as their latest casual job on a Californian ranch leads to an apparently inevitable calamity due to Lennie's uncontrollable urge for affection.

Director Roxana Silbert's production doesn't shy away from the casual racism and sexism prevalent in that time and place, including frequent use of the 'n' word.
The bleakness of the situation is represented by Liz Ascroft's desolate set.

The cast bring out the dark humour in Of Mice And Men, as well as the heartache. Michael Legge superbly portrays a man having his hopes crushed as George, whilst Benjamin Dilloway is hugely sympathetic as child-like Lennie.

Of Mice And Men continues until November 1. **LB**

The bawdy boys' songs of sailors

Fisherman's Friends
Town Hall, Birmingham
THERE are no frills, no light shows, no smoke machines in fact very little in terms of a stage show at all, it's simply about the voices of the eight ordinary blokes from Port Isaac.

They did pretty much what they do most Friday nights in their native fishing village during summer, stand around and sing traditional songs and sea shanties with the occasional bit of banter mostly from front-man John Cleave.

This was the band's third time in the Second City and they kicked off with a very bawdy tale based loosely on the famous shanty, Blow the Man Down.

As individuals their voices aren't particularly outstanding but then when they harmonise as a group you get the real point of Fisherman's Friends.

Their rather theatrical rendition of Coast of High Barbary, a tale of spooks and ghost ships was a real treat. Their act is good, honest and down to earth and great to listen to.

Danny Farragher

RAYMOND GUBBAY presents

CHRISTMAS AT SYMPHONY HALL

Saturday 20 December 2.30pm
CHRISTMAS CLASSICS

Seasonal classics and carols with festive readings by special guest **Brian Blessed**
Bach Opening Chorus from Christmas Oratorio
Handel Let the Bright Seraphim
Mozart Alleluia from Exultate Jubilate
and **CAROLS FOR ALL**



Saturday 27 December 2.30pm
GLENN MILLER ORCHESTRA

Favourite wartime chart-toppers & hits from the forties directed by legendary bandleader **Ray McVay**.
Moonlight Serenade Little Brown Jug
String of Pearls American Patrol
Chattanooga Choo Choo
Strike Up the Band Rhapsody in Blue
With special guests **THE JIVING LINDY HOPPERS**



Monday 29 December 7.30pm
THE SOUND OF MUSICALS

Show-stoppers from Broadway and West End.
Kiss Me Kate Singin' in the Rain Cabaret
The Sound of Music The Phantom of the Opera
Les Misérables Oklahoma!
with an all-star line up from London's glittering West End
Summer Strallen Kerry Ellis
Tim Howar Graham Bickley



Saturday 20 December 7.30pm
CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

Staged in full 18th Century costume in an evocative candle-lit style setting.
Handel Christmas sequence from Messiah
Bach Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring
Vivaldi Gloria (First Movement)
and **CAROLS FOR ALL**
MOZART FESTIVAL ORCHESTRA in full period costume



Saturday 27 December 7.30pm
LAST NIGHT OF THE CHRISTMAS PROMS

Rousing classics with a grand flag waving finale!
Strauss Die Fledermaus Overture
Puccini O soave fanciulla from La bohème
Verdi Brindisi from La traviata Elgar Nimrod
And all your Proms favourites Pompée Nessun Dorma
Rule, Britannia! Land of Hope & Glory



Tuesday 30 December 7.30pm
BEETHOVEN'S NINTH

The acclaimed **Royal Philharmonic Orchestra** performs an unmissable all-Beethoven programme.
Symphony No. 9 'Choral'
Piano Concerto No. 5 'Emperor'
Cordelia Williams piano
members of **City of Birmingham Choir** and **Birmingham Choral Union**



Monday 22 December 2.30pm
CHRISTMAS CAROL SINGALONG

JONATHAN COHEN leads you through his most-loved carols and all-time Christmas hits.
Let it snow O little town of Bethlehem
Jingle Bells The Twelve Days of Christmas
Sleigh Ride Merry Christmas Everyone
London Concert Chorus & Orchestra
special guest **ALISON JIEAR**



Sunday 28 December 2.30pm
GLORIOUS HANDEL BY CANDLELIGHT

Handel's masterpieces performed in full period costume in an evocative candle-lit style setting.
Zadok the Priest Arrival of the Queen of Sheba
Let the Bright Seraphim Sarabande Trumpet Suite
Mozart Festival Chorus
Mozart Festival Orchestra in full 18th century costume



Thursday 1 January 2.30pm
JOHANN STRAUSS GALA

Presented & conducted by **Rainer Hersch**
The Blue Danube Waltz Radetsky March
Tritsch Tratsch Polka The Laughing Song
Starring the **JOHANN STRAUSS ORCHESTRA** and the **JOHANN STRAUSS DANCERS** in glorious costume of the period



Wednesday 24 December 2.30pm
THE GLORY OF CHRISTMAS

Perfectly captures the true spirit of Christmas.
Gruber Silent Night Adam O Holy Night
Haydn Trumpet Concerto (Last Movement)
Bach Sheep may safely graze and **CAROLS FOR ALL**
Birmingham Choral Union
Staffordshire Children's Choir
London Concert Orchestra



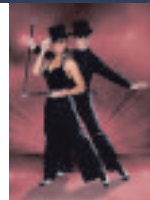
Sunday 28 December 7.30pm
THE VERY BEST OF JOHN WILLIAMS

Iconic music from E.T. to Star Wars and beyond...
E.T. JFK JAWS STAR WARS
SUPERMAN HARRY POTTER
JURASSIC PARK INDIANA JONES
London Concert Orchestra



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City will feel sting of sharp Steel

EXPECT jibes at Wolverhampton's expense when sharp-witted Mark Steel's Back in Town, recreating his radio show which bases his material on the town he is visiting. You can find out if Mark has done his research well when he appears at the Wulfrun Hall tonight (Thursday).

Also tonight, poet and satirist John Cooper Clarke is at Birmingham Town Hall. On Sunday Jamaican comedy legend Oliver Samuels is in play Dollyhouse at the New Alexandra Theatre and Jon Richardson's Noddy show is at Birmingham Hippodrome. On Friday, October 31, it's between Noel Fielding's surreal ramblings at Wolverhampton Civic Hall and Ross Noble's Tangentman at the New Alex.

From a big truck to songs as the Big O

A SINGER from Halesowen has become one of the top tribute acts to rock and roll legend Roy Orbison.

Barry Steele first found his talent for emulating 'the Big O' on a holiday in Cornwall 13 years ago when his family entered him in a singing competition. A fellow competitor said that his version of Robbie Williams hit Angels sounded like it was being sung by the late American hitmaker Roy Orbison.

That comment led to a new career for the former truck driver who now tours in show Roy Orbison and Friends. He is at the Wulfrun Hall on October 31 and at the New Alexandra Theatre on November 29.

Peter swings back into action for his Symphony Hall concert

Head for hoedown with Hall

GRUMPY American comedian Rich Hall is bringing his musical mates for a hoedown mash-up of music and comedy in Wolverhampton and Birmingham.

Deadpan Hall was an inspiration for Matt Groening when creating bartender character Moe Szyslak in The Simpsons and is a familiar face on British TV. He has performed at comedy clubs across the world and is known in the United States for appearing and writing on The David Letterman Show.

In the UK he has appeared on Have I Got News For You, Never Mind The Buzzcocks and QI, as well as his own TV documentaries How the West Was Lost, Rich Hall's Cattle Drive, Rich Hall's Election Special and Rich Hall's Fishing Show.

Rich Hall's Hoedown comes to the Wulfrun Hall on Thursday, October 30, and Birmingham Glee Club on Monday, November 3.



Long train coming — grouchy comic and musician Rich Hall is West Midlands bound

TV celebrity and singer Peter Andre has launched his first UK tour for two years, after releasing his swing album Big Night.

He returns to Birmingham for a concert at the Symphony Hall on Saturday where he promises to combine elements from big band swing and soul.

He will not be neglecting the song that brought him fame, Mysterious Girl will be performed alongside songs from his previous albums Revelation and Accelerate. Let's just hope he can include Insania too!

The 41-year-old Anglo/Aussie/Cypriot entertainer, who is currently planning his marriage to 23-year-old trainee doctor Emily MacDonagh after the birth of their daughter Amelia, is now as famous for his reality TV show as his music. He also presents 60 Minute Makeover on ITV and has added a new string to his bow by designing fragrances.

Tonight (Thursday) legendary Stax and Blues Brothers guitarist Steve Cropper is at the Robin 2 in Bilston. Tomorrow singer-songwriter Dave Giles is at the O2 Academy in Birmingham, whilst nearby Digbeth's The Institute hosts two plum gigs in its rooms with New Jersey's Real Estate performing songs from their excellent Atlas album and St Vincent (alias American singer-songwriter Annie Clark) performing her quirky pop.

Acclaimed singer-songwriter Joan Armatrading brings Love & Affection to Wolverhampton Grand Theatre on Sunday, same night Irish folk duo Leo & Anto play the city's Slade Rooms. One of the biggest new stars of 2014 Sam Smith has a sold out gig at the O2 Academy on Monday, as Jungle play The Institute. Singer and soap star Heather Peace is at Birmingham Town Hall on Tuesday and Yorkshire singer John Newman, who updated Northern Soul with Love Me Again, is at Wolverhampton Civic on Wednesday.



Big Night — Peter Andre

Grand time to be a country music fan

IT'S a grand time for country fans. The Grand Union Songwriters' showcase features three acts with Texan rising star SaraBeth on a bill which also features Essex-born Nashville-based Glen Mitchell and blues influenced Lancashire lass Jess Roberts. It is being held at Bilston's Robin 2 venue on Tuesday. British country veteran Charlie Landsborough is at the New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, Wednesday.

Next month Push For The Stride sisters Catherine and Lizzy Ward Thomas are in a double bill with The Shires at Birmingham Glee Club on November 4. More singing siblings, from a famous Birmingham family, The Cadbury Sisters bring harmonies to the Glee tonight.

Folk harmony and dust bowl ballads

IF you want to hear some heavenly harmonies then don't miss The Staves on Sunday when they play The Institute's Temple venue, Birmingham. The trio have a new EP out called Blood I Bled. The show starts at 7pm.

Liverpudlian singer, activist and Woody Guthrie fanatic Alun Parry will be playing Unicorn Folk Club in the function room of The Bradford Arms, Ivetsy Bank, Wheaton Aston, tomorrow (Friday). The show starts at 8.30pm and tickets are £4.

The Old Dance School will be bringing their sound to Red Lion Folk Club, King's Heath, Birmingham on Wednesday 7.45pm.

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Tony Robinson

Tony Robinson has spent three series of this programme rambling through some of Britain's most extraordinary landscapes. In fact, he's covered so many miles, it's a wonder there are any places he hasn't been. Nevertheless, the actor-turned-presenter must have been scouring his Ordnance Survey maps closely, because he's back with another bunch of epic treks, beginning with one that takes in the dramatic moors and valleys of West Yorkshire. It's the area that inspired such amazing pieces of literature as the Brontë sisters' *Wuthering Heights* and *Jane Eyre*, and Tony does indeed follow in their footsteps by visiting their birthplace in Thornton and their old home at the parsonage in the village of Haworth.

1.05 Weather for the Week Ahead. 1.10
BBC News.

12.25 TOTP2. (R) 1.25 Film: Kicks.
(2009) **1.45 (GMT)** This Is BBC Two.

Jeremy Kyle Show USA. (R) **3.45** ITV
Nightscreen.

Hard Knocks. (R) **5.30** NFL: The American Football Show. (R)

(R) **4.25** Make It Big. (R) **5.15** Angels of
Alarm. (R) **5.40** Roary the Racing Car. (R)

2.20 (GMT) *The Comedian* (2012) **4.00** Close

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CHOICE



Bradley Walsh (middle)

Keep It in the Family (ITV, 7pm)
New series. Bradley Walsh hosts a game show in which families go head to head in a series of fun-filled rounds. A line-up of celebrities each hold the clue to a prize, and it's up to the contestants to determine the fate of their chosen box as they decide whether to swap, drop or keep it in the family. Taking part in the first edition are six members of the Emmerdale cast – Mark Charnock (Marlon), Natalie Anderson (Alicia), Dominic Brunt (Paddy), Samantha Giles (Bernice), Chris Bisson (Jai) and Charlotte Bellamy (Laurel).

BBC1

6.00 (GMT) Breakfast. **7.35** Match of the Day. (R) **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** Sunday Morning Live. **11.00** Sunday Politics. **12.15** MOTD2 Extra. With Mark Chapman and the Match of the Day team. **1.00** BBC News; Weather. **1.15** Bargain Hunt. (R) **2.15** Holiday of My Lifetime with Len Goodman. (R) **3.00** Talk to the Animals. (R) **4.00** Points of View. **4.15** Songs of Praise. **4.55** Life Story. (R) **5.55** BBC News; Regional News; Weather. **6.20** **Countryfile**. Northumberland is the location as Matt Baker discovers that Hadrian's Wall is a stronghold of one of the UK's rarest plants and finds out how a world-famous discovery at the wall just 50 years ago has told people most of what they know about Roman armour. Ellie Harrison joins amateur astronomers enjoying the best dark skies in England and finds out about the different ways to photograph stars. Adam Henson is in the market for a rare bred Portland ram, former farmer and trained butcher Gareth Barlow looks at the British beef industry, and Tom Heap investigates the impact that falling milk prices are having on British dairy farmers. **7.20** **Strictly Come Dancing: The Results**. Tess Daly and Claudia Winkleman reveal which couples are in the dance-off, leaving their fates in the hands of the judges, and Culture Club perform one of their greatest hits. **8.00** **Antiques Roadshow**. The team returns to Chénies Manor near Amersham in Buckinghamshire, where items include a forgotten train set, a collection of pocket watches and an ornate plant stand. **9.00** **Tutankhamun: The Truth Uncovered**. Dallas Campbell reveals new scientific research aimed at getting to the truth about the boy pharaoh's death at just 19, including DNA analysis and a CT scan of his mummified body. **10.00** BBC News; Regional News. **10.30** **Match of the Day 2**. Mark Chapman reviews the latest Premier League action, featuring Manchester United v Chelsea, Burnley v Everton and Tottenham Hotspur v Newcastle United. **11.40** **The Apprentice**. (R) **12.40** **Film: Deceived**. (1991) Thriller, with Goldie Hawn. **2.25** Weather for the Week Ahead. **2.30** BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 (GMT) Great British Garden Revival. (R) **7.00** Countryfile: Autumn Special. (R) **8.00** Gardeners' World. (R) **8.30** The Beechgrove Garden. **9.00** The Football League Show. (R) **10.20** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **11.50** Sweet Baby James. (R) **12.20** Exploring China: A Culinary Adventure. (R) **1.20** **Film: War and Peace**. (1956) Historical drama, starring Audrey Hepburn. **4.40** Escape to the Continent. **5.10** Flog It! (R) **6.00** **Inside the Animal Mind**. Chris Packham continues his exploration of the minds of the cleverest animals on the planet by examining the problem-solving abilities of crows. (R) **7.00** **Human Universe**. Is mankind alone, or are there aliens out there, either waiting to be discovered, or on their way to find Earth? Professor Brian Cox spends this episode asking such questions, and what he discovers may raise a few eyebrows. He begins by exploring the human race's efforts to find neighbours in outer space, including the launch of two golden discs containing a greeting from Earth in the 1970s; they are still travelling and are now the most distant man-made objects from the planet. Brian also meets members of the Search for Extra-Terrestrial Intelligence, who have been monitoring radio signals for 50 years without success, before discussing the ingredients needed to make an intelligent civilisation with astrophysicist Dr Frank Drake. (R) **8.00** **Wonders of the Monsoon**. Documentary examining the plants and animals that thrive in monsoon areas, such as the black crested macaques and maleo birds of Indonesia, and the Rajah Brooke's pitcher in Borneo. **9.00** **Afghanistan: The Lion's Last Roar?** First of a two-part documentary telling the story of the conflict in Afghanistan, beginning with how initial miscalculation led to near catastrophe shortly after the troops arrived. **10.00** **Russell Howard's Good News**. The comedian offers his perspective on stories dominating the media, whether on TV, online or in print. (R) **10.30** **The Fall**. (R) **12.30** The Fall. (R) **1.30** Sign Zone: Countryfile: Autumn Special. (R) **2.25** Holby City. (R) **3.25** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 (GMT) CITV: (GMT) Fort Boyard Ultimate Challenge. **6.25** Pat & Stan. (R) **6.35** Pat & Stan. (R) **6.40** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.50** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **7.05** Animals. (R) **7.10** Animals. (R) **7.20** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **7.25** Sooty. (R) **7.35** Mr Bean: The Animated Series. (R) **7.50** Ultimate Spider-Man. **8.15** Horrid Henry. **8.30** Big Time Rush. **9.00** The Aquabats! Super Show! (R) **9.25** Dickinson's Real Deal. (R) **10.15** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **11.15** ITV News; Weather. **11.25** **Film: Carry On Cleo**. (1964) **1.05** All Star Family Fortunes. (R) **1.50** The Unforgettable Yootha Joyce. (R) **2.20** The X Factor. (R) **4.30** Downton Abbey. (R) **5.35** Tipping Point: Lucky Stars. (R) **6.30** **Regional Programme**; Weather. **6.45** **ITV News**; Weather. **7.00** **Keep It in the Family**. New series. Bradley Walsh hosts a game show in which families go head to head in a series of fun-filled rounds to win big prizes with the help of celebrities. **8.00** **The X Factor Results**. The tension in the studio is palpable as the contestants learn their fate. **9.00** **Downton Abbey**. Following the altercation, relations between Robert and Cora are strained, while Blake's scheming starts to come to fruition when Mary is unexpectedly pitted against her love rival. Edith decides to take drastic measures after receiving terrible news, leaving various parties reeling. Baxter is embroiled in the investigation into Green's death following a mysterious tip-off, and as Thomas's health deteriorates, he finally reveals the truth to the maid. Elsewhere, love is in the air for more than one member of the Crawley family. **10.05** **ITV News**; Weather. **10.15** **Harry's South Pole Heroes**. Part one of two. Prince Harry joins four injured British soldiers on a 125-mile expedition in the Antarctic as part of the Walking with the Wounded South Pole Allied Challenge 2013. (R) **11.15** **Piers Morgan's Life Stories: Roger Moore**. The former Bond star recalls the highs and lows of his acting career and personal life. (R) **12.15** The Store. Home shopping. **2.30** Motorsport UK. **3.20** British Superbike Championship Highlights. **4.35** **ITV Nightscreen**. **5.05** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R)

CHANNEL 4

6.30 (GMT) How I Met Your Mother. (R) **7.00** How I Met Your Mother. (R) **7.25** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.55** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.30** Frasier. (R) **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **1.00** American Football Live. Atlanta Falcons v Detroit Lions (Kick-off 1.30pm). **5.00** The Simpsons. (R) **5.30** Channel 4 News. **5.55** **Film: The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader**. (2010) Fantasy adventure, with George Henley and Skandar Keynes. **8.00** **Speed with Guy Martin**. New series. The motorbike racer takes part in four more speed-based challenges and gets his hands dirty in unique engineering projects to discover what makes things go fast. In the first programme, he finds out how far it's possible to travel on a bicycle during 24 hours of non-stop pedalling. With the help of bike experts Miles Kingsbury and Mike Burrows he builds a tandem, and pairs up with his friend, endurance expert Jason Miles, to see how far they can push their bodies. In the build-up to the final record attempt at the historic Goodwood Motor Circuit, Guy also learns about the science of cooking for athletes with nutritionist Nigel Mitchell, who instructs him to lose five kilos and recommends a new diet regime. **9.00** **Homeland**. Carrie makes a delicate alliance with her counterpart at Pakistan's secretive Inter-Services Intelligence, and intervenes when Fara fails to recruit a key asset. Elsewhere, Quinen is still reeling from events in Islamabad, and zeroes in on a potential lead. **10.05** **Film: Four Lions**. (2010) Four British Muslims form an incompetent terrorist cell and hatch a scheme to attack the London marathon. Chris Morris' satirical comedy, starring Riz Ahmed and Kayvan Novak. **12.10** American Football Live. New Orleans Saints v Green Bay Packers (Kick-off 12.30am). Nat Coombs is joined by Mike Carlson to present coverage of the clash at the Mercedes-Benz Superdome. **3.45** The Grid. (R) **4.10** Location, Location, Location. Kirstie and Phil revisit their oldest-ever house-hunters. (R) **5.05** Win It Cook It. (R) **5.35** Countdown. With Dictionary Corner guest Dave Myers. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 (GMT) Milkshake!: (GMT) Peppa Pig. **6.05** How to Race a Car. (R) **6.15** Angelina Ballerina. (R) **6.30** Seaside Antics. **6.35** The Mr Men Show. (R) **6.45** Chloe's Closet. (R) **7.00** Bert and Ernie's Great Adventures. (R) **7.05** Olly the Little White Van. (R) **7.10** Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) **7.25** Make Way for Noddy. (R) **7.35** Paw Patrol. **7.55** Little Princess. (R) **8.05** The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky. (R) **8.25** Wanda and the Alien. **8.40** Zack and Quack. **8.55** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.10** Jelly Jam. (R) **9.25** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. **10.00** Great South Run. **12.00** World's Scariest Plane Landings. **12.45** **Film: Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked**. (2011) Comedy sequel, starring Jason Lee. **2.25** **Film: Kangaroo Jack**. (2003) Comedy, starring Jerry O'Connell. **4.10** **Film: The Goonies**. (1985) Children's adventure, starring Sean Astin. **6.00** **Film: Speed Racer**. (2008) Premiere. A teenager dreams of following in his dead brother's footsteps and being a champion racing driver. As he becomes increasingly successful on the track, he discovers the sport is being manipulated by corrupt corporations. Joining forces with a mysterious former rival, he vows to bring the fat cats' race-fixing schemes to an end. Action adventure from the creators of The Matrix, starring Emilie Hirsch. **8.55** **5 News Weekend**. **9.00** **Film: Angels & Demons**. (2009) Academic adventurer Robert Langdon is called in by the Vatican to deal with a crisis. The Pope has died and the four cardinals in line to be his successor have all been abducted by a mysterious sect that is threatening to murder them. As he searches for the kidnapped clerics, Langdon discovers the cult has an even more horrific plan in mind. Thriller, with Tom Hanks. **11.45** **The Da Vinci Code: The True Story**. Exploring the claims made in Dan Brown's The Da Vinci Code, including an intimate relationship between Jesus and Mary Magdalene and the final resting place of the Holy Grail. (R) **12.40** Campus Day. Documentary series following police who patrol college towns in America. (R) **1.05** SuperCasino. **3.10** The Gadget Show. (R) **4.00** House Doctor. (R) **4.25** Make It Big. (R) **5.20** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.40** Roary the Racing Car. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three
7.00 (GMT) Great Movie Mistakes **8.00** Doctor Who: The Ultimate Guide **8.15** Doctor Who **9.00** Come Fly with Me **10.00** Family Guy **10.45** Bad Education: The Finale **11.15** The Revolution Will Be Televised **11.45** American Dad! **12.30** Comedy Fest Live 2013 **1.30** Bad Education: The Finale **2.30** The Revolution Will Be Televised **2.30** Come Fly with Me **3.30** Bad Education: The Finale **4.00** Close **BBC Four**
7.00 (GMT) Under Milk Wood **8.00** Rome: A History of the Eternal City **9.00** Storyville: 112 Weddings **10.00** Foo Fighters: Sonic Highways **12.00** The Joy of Abba **1.00** Abba at the BBC **2.00** Agnetha: Abba & After **3.00** The Joy of Abba **ITV2**
11.05 The X Factor **1.20** The Xtra Factor **2.20** The Vamps: The Hot Desk **2.30** You've Been Framed! **3.05** **Film: Jurassic Park** (1993) **5.40** **Film: Back to the Future Part III** (1990) **8.00** Scorpion **9.00** The Xtra Factor **10.00** Tricked **11.00** **Film: House of Wax** (2005) **1.15** Dads **2.05** Fake Reaction **2.45** Teleshopping **ITV3**
11.55 Inspector Morse **2.00** Rosemary & Thyme **3.05** **Film: The Secret of My Success** (1987) **5.20** **Film: Columbus** (1992) **8.00** **Film: The Untouchables** (1960) **10.00** **Film: The Untouchables** (1960) **11.00** **Film: The Untouchables** (1960) **12.00** **Film: The Untouchables** (1960) **1.00** **Film: The Untouchables** (1960) **2.00** **Film: The Untouchables** (1960) **3.00** **Film: The Untouchables** (1960) **4.00** **Film: The Untouchables** (1960) **5.00** **Film: The Untouchables** (1960) **6.00** **Film: The Untouchables** (1960) **7.00** **Film: The Untouchables** (1960) **8.00** **Film: The Untouchables** (1960) **9.00** **Film: The Untouchables** (1960) **10.00** **Film: The Untouchables** (1960) **11.00** **Film: The Untouchables** (1960) **12.00** **Film: The Untouchables** (1960) **1.00** **Film: The Untouchables** (1960) **2.00** **Film: The Untouchables** (1960) **3.00** **Film: The Untouchables** (1960) **4.00** **Film: The Untouchables** (1960) 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MONDAY
Amityville II: The Possession, Channel 5, 10.55pm
A dysfunctional family moves into the infamous Long Island property, where the teenage son falls under the influence of sinister forces. Horror prequel, with Burt Young, Jack Wagner and James Olson. (1982)

TUESDAY
The Mothman Prophecies, BBC1, 11.55pm
A bereaved journalist gets inexplicably lost on his way to Virginia, and ends up in a rural backwater where the residents are reporting paranormal encounters and sightings of strange lights. He investigates further and is startled to uncover sightings of a huge moth-like creature. Supernatural thriller, with Richard Gere, Laura Linney, Will Patton and Debra Messing. (2002)

WEDNESDAY
Scary Movie 4, BBC1, 12.05am
Dim-witted Cindy Campbell gets a job as the caretaker of a haunted house, where she comes into contact with the ghost of a little Japanese boy. He tells her he knows a secret way to rid the Earth of invading aliens – but then he unfortunately vanishes before passing it on to her. Spoof horror sequel, starring Anna Faris. (2006)



Poltergeist, Friday, Channel 5, 11.55pm

THURSDAY
Sacrifices of the Heart, Channel 5, 3.15pm
A Los Angeles lawyer returns to the family home when she learns her estranged father has started to show signs of Alzheimer's disease. Drama, starring Melissa Gilbert, Ken Howard and Lisa Pelikan. (2007)

FRIDAY
Paranormal Activity, ITV, 11.10pm
A couple move into a new house, only to be disturbed by unexplained supernatural phenomena. They become convinced the property is haunted and set out to capture evidence of their ghostly encounters on film. Horror, with Katie Featherston and Micah Sloat. (2007)

Poltergeist, Channel 5, 11.55pm
A family experiences strange events after invisible phantoms invade its home. At first the ghosts seem harmless, simply making things move by themselves. But before long, they spirit away the five-year-old daughter to their own plane of existence, forcing her parents to call on paranormal researchers to find their missing child. Horror, with JoBeth Williams, Craig T Nelson and Heather O'Rourke. (1982)

Secrets and lies from the past come to light

How do you like your dramas? Straight down the line, or with a twist or two? Maybe with an offbeat or supernatural element, and perhaps a few stars thrown in for good measure? If you're nodding your head in answer of any or all of those questions, then Intruders, a new, eight-part series made by BBC America, could be for you.

Taking the lead is John Simm, and any new programme featuring him is always worth a look.

But when you hear he's appearing in something that has already gone down a storm in the US, it becomes a must-see.

The only problem is, if it becomes as big a hit as it seems set to do, Intruders may take Simm away from our own shores for some time, because he will suddenly become a man in demand Stateside.

So brace yourself for that happening – and for the big hole in British drama that Simm will leave if he does depart.

Intruders is a paranormal drama based on a novel by acclaimed English author Michael Marshall Smith, who claims he was inspired to

write it by the notion that we can, at times, seem like more than one person.

It has an excellent pedigree in other respects too – the script has been written by Glen Morgan, who is also the executive producer; genre fans will be familiar with him via his work on The X Files.

What's more, several episodes have been directed by Eduardo Sanchez, who first found fame via his work on low-budget smash-hit horror movie The Blair Witch Project in 1999.

The rest have been helmed by Daniel Stamm, whose previous work includes the films 13 Sins and The Last Exorcism.

Intruders made its debut in the US in August, and when it was broadcast alongside the first episode of Peter Capaldi's stint in Doctor Who, helped land the station its biggest-ever Saturday night ratings.

Kim Shillinglaw, Controller of BBC Two, says: "Drama on BBC Two continues to be a stand-out success and we have plenty more to look forward to this year, from the return of hit series Peaky Blinders and The Fall,

to this striking new thriller. "With a world renowned cast and an impressive creative team, this chilling and contemporary drama will keep viewers on the edge of their seats this autumn."

The plot focuses on a shadowy organisation dedicated to chasing immortality by inhabiting other people's bodies.

Simm stars as ex-LA cop Jack Whelan, who becomes suspicious of the group's activities after his wife Amy disappears.

Whelan becomes obsessed with tracking Amy down, using the skills he learnt as a cop to follow her trail. But as he becomes increasingly consumed by his quest, he begins to question whether he really knew her at all...

Oscar-winning actress Mira Sorvino also stars, alongside James Frain, Millie Brown and Tony Kittles.

"Intruders is a truly unsettling drama – eerie, intriguing, complex and compelling," says Sue Deeks, head of BBC programme acquisition.

We can't wait to see for ourselves.



John Simm and Mira Sorvino star in Intruders, Monday, BBC2, 9pm

BEST OF THE REST

MONDAY
Marilyn Monroe: The Missing Evidence Channel 5, 8pm

New series. Investigating the evidence that supports some of the world's most notorious conspiracy theories. Though she officially committed suicide, some people have long claimed that the FBI, the Mafia and even the Kennedy family may have been involved in Marilyn Monroe's death. This programme looks at some of these claims, and also reveals the contents of tape recordings made inside Monroe's house on the fateful day of August 5, 1962, which suggest her psychiatrist may have been responsible for her death.

Baby P: The Untold Story BBC1, 8.30pm

In November 2008, the story of the death of a 17-month-old toddler horrified the nation. Then known only as Baby P, he had been subjected to a prolonged period of abuse and neglect. But perhaps the most shocking part of the story involved the authorities whose job it was to protect Baby P, later named as Peter Connelly. It was revealed that he and his family were visited more than 60 times by various agencies, and yet his suffering continued. This documentary examines the story in detail, and speaks to some of those connected with the case and its aftermath.

TUESDAY
The Missing BBC1, 9pm

A strong cast and a premise that plays on every parent's nightmare should make this new drama series unmissable. James Nesbitt and Frances O'Connor star as Tony and Emily Hughes, whose five-year-old son Oliver goes missing during a family holiday in France in 2006. The strain takes it toll on their marriage, but Tony refuses to give up hope that his son will be found alive, so when a new shred of evidence emerges, eight years on from Oliver's disappearance, the father returns to France.

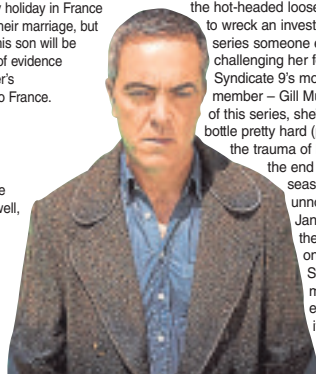
WEDNESDAY
The Apprentice BBC1, 9pm

It's safe to say the recent 'wearable technology' task didn't go all that well, as the girls came up with a jacket with solar-powered shoulder pads, while the boys designed a jumper with an inbuilt camera that Daniel Lassman pitched to a retailer by admitting he probably wouldn't wear it in public. However, this week, the would-be entrepreneurs are getting a second chance to prove that they are savvy when it

comes to 21st-century technology, as Alan Sugar challenges them to create their own online video channels to go live on YouTube.

Scott & Bailey ITV, 9pm

We always thought Rachel was supposed to be the hot-headed loose cannon most likely to wreck an investigation, but in this series someone else has been challenging her for the title of Syndicate 9's most irresponsible member – Gill Murray. Over the course of this series, she's been hitting the bottle pretty hard (probably do deal with the trauma of being kidnapped at the end of the previous season), and it's not gone unnoticed by Rachel and Janet. However, following the discovery of slaves on the Pritchard farm, Syndicate 9 is under more scrutiny than ever – which means it's a particularly disastrous time for the boss to come in reeking of booze.



The Missing, Tuesday, BBC1, 9pm

THURSDAY
Life Story BBC1, 9pm

Sir David Attenborough's back on our screens having travelled the globe in filming his latest series, Life Story, in which he narrates the stories of animals' journeys through life. In this second episode, he follows a tiger cub whose family is under threat, a vulnerable veined octopus and a pair of sibling cheetahs guarding against starvation, and the naturalist explains how the animals develop new skills and learn how to survive on their own.

FRIDAY
Citizen Khan BBC1, 8.30pm

During a recent episode of Would I Lie To You? Adil Ray revealed he had once been told off by a Greek boat owner for sailing too far out to sea. That's definitely not to kind of thing Mr Khan would get up to. Ray writes and stars in this sitcom about Khan's often fraught life, and while many may be surprised to see it back for a new series – it hasn't always had great reviews – it has grown an army of fans big enough to warrant a recommitment. The first episode sees the Khan family return from a trip to Pakistan with Mrs Khan's mother in tow. Mr Khan isn't pleased about her presence, but cheers up when she announces her plan to move into a care home.

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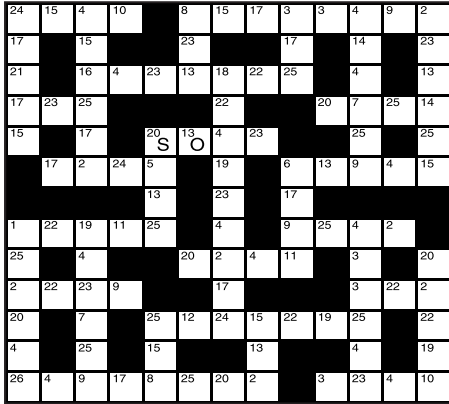
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Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

Y	A	H	S	T	Z	B	K	N	P	W	J	E
L	F	I	R	M	D	C	Q	X	O	U	G	V

1	14
2	15
3	16
4	17
5	18
6	19
7	20
8	21
9	22
10	23
11	24
12	25
13	26

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

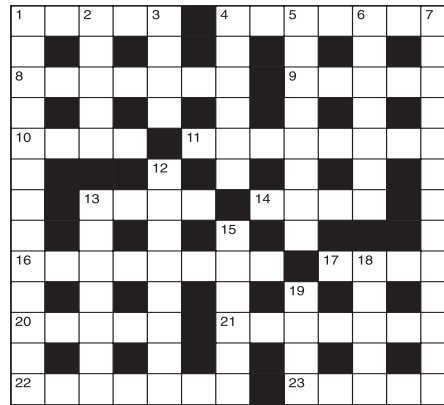
Cryptic Clues:

Across

- In Roman Catholic setting the prophet produces an object of reverence (5)
- See 11 Across
- See 17 Across
- See 16 Across
- Maverick trumpet! (5,8)
- What bakers do, we hear, as a necessity (4)
- They are graduated for those who take physics (8-7)
- Military policeman after petty-officer for ostentatious display (4)
- Fish not yet caught, one hears (4)
- See 9 Across
- See 8 Across
- He's personally responsible for the position he's in (4-4,3)
- See 23 Across
- The fellow gets a certain time for a particular assignment (7)
- Master copy for various clients (7)
- See 20 Across
- Publicity man to show lack of tension in contemporary surroundings (5-5)

Down

- Figures of classical significance (5,8)
- Take up temporary accommodation at the gate-house (5)
- A thousand in international settlement (4)
- For the man of finance this is regarded as a certainty (6)
- A word in America for the rail-head (8)
- It needs fifty to light the fuel (7)
- Dramatically speaking, they deal with all sorts of properties (5-8)
- Give chap time, maybe, to be down-right in speech (8)
- Go in front - it's soft to go back (7)
- Top coat for me in back lane (6)
- What the first of the rubbers will do in comfort! (5)
- Break the vessels up (4)



Quick Clues:

Across

- Spate (5)
- Refuse (7)
- Unfasten (7)
- Even (5)
- Ripped (4)
- Theft (8)
- Nobleman (4)
- Otherwise (4)
- Defames (8)
- Chief (4)
- Dodge (5)
- In arrears (7)
- Pullover (7)
- Support (5)

Down

- Perfection (13)
- Happen (5)
- Deceased (4)
- Substitute (6)
- Guilty (8)
- Bill (7)
- Illumination (13)
- Slope (8)
- Flow from (7)
- Warmth (6)
- Viper (5)
- Minus (4)

Sudoku

4	7			5	8
1		7			2
	5		2	9	
2		1	5	8	6
7	5				2
	6	2			
	4	9			
8			6	7	4
3	1	2	6		9

Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

6	7	4	8	5	2	1	3	9
3	1	8	7	4	9	5	6	2
9	2	5	3	6	4	7	8	1
2	4	1	5	7	3	9	8	6
8	6	9	1	2	4	7	5	3
5	3	7	6	9	8	2	4	1
4	9	3	2	6	5	8	1	7
1	8	2	4	3	7	6	9	5
7	5	6	9	8	1	3	2	4

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 3 Oversight; 8 Live; 9 Firm going; 10 Normal; 11 Mavis; 14 Evens; 15 Cure; 16 Earth; 18 Ends; 20 Ample; 21 Sport; 24 Spared; 25 Matrimony; 26 Lean; 27 Prototype. Down: 1 Blunderer; 2 Overheads; 4 Veil; 5 Rumba; 6 Irony; 7 Hint; 9 False; 11 Merit; 12 Supporter; 13 Defendant; 17 Harpy; 19 Spirit; 22 Remit; 23 Pair; 24 Snip. QUICK - Across: 3 Composure; 8 Elui; 9 Batter off; 10 Seaman; 11 Shrub; 14 Ledger; 15 True; 16 Draws; 18 Sour; 20 Trade; 21 Teach; 24 Stream; 25 Arrogance; 26 Keen; 27 Determine. Down: 1 Senseless; 2 Out-and-out; 4 Omen; 5 Patch; 6 Sprout; 7 Rift; 9 Bared; 11 Smash; 12 Break even; 13 Never mind; 17 State; 19 Remote; 22 Claim; 23 Free; 24 Scan.

Quiz

- Who wrote the opera Hary Janos?
- Where was the first permanent British settlement in the US?
- Between which countries is the Kattegat sea passage?
- Who coined the term Iron Curtain?
- What does an invertebrate lack?
- Where is the Interpol HQ?
- How is the Book of Changes better known?
- Who is the author of the Dune series?
- In which country was Graeme Hick born?
- Which organ produces insulin?

Last week's solutions:

Quiz: 1 Scabies; 2 Raccoon; 3 Medicine; 4 Jockey Club; 5 New Zealand; 6 XIV; 7 Kiwi; 8 Mike Leigh; 9 Swiss; 10 Uncle. Niner: SCROUNGED

Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

574 gives a deer,
8763 gives a horse,
913342 gives a cat.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



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HALESOWEN, Hagley Road£795 pcm - Fees
An unfurnished detached house within close proximity of Halesowen. Briefly comprising Of: 3 Bedrooms, large lounge, fitted kitchen, bathroom with separate w.c, driveway parking & garage, double glazing, gas central heating (new boiler) EPC: D



AMBLECOTE, 41a/b/c High Street£775 pcm - Fees
A fantastic opportunity to rent a new build home on a select development. Featuring homes of 3 generous size bedrooms (master with en-suite) finished to an exceptional standard. Featuring spacious lounge/dining areas, well appointed kitchens, downstairs WC, 3 bedrooms with family bathrooms & master bedroom with en-suite. 2 allocated parking spaces. front & rear gardens. These homes will not be available for long. EPC: TBC



HALESOWEN, Stourbridge Road£750 pcm - Fees
Well presented 3 bedroom semi detached house with large driveway for multiple cars/cars this very popular residential area. Entrance Hall leading to large living room/dining area, fitted kitchen, large private rear garden with open fields at the top. 3 bedrooms, family bathroom and garage. EPC: E



ROWLEY REGIS, Spring Vale Road£650 pcm - Fees
1ST MONTHS RENT HALF PRICE! An opportunity to acquire a well maintained traditional detached property situated in a popular residential location in a quiet cul-de-sac close to local schools, amenities and road links. Featuring a large living room, fitted kitchen with a double range cooker, W.C, 2 double & 1 single bedroom/study, bathroom with shower, driveway/garage. A lovely property not to be missed. Minimum contract 12 months. EPC: D



HALESOWEN, Wroxley House£625 pcm - Fees
Luxury living in Hagley Green. This superb luxury ground floor apartment offering spacious accommodation including open plan lounge/kitchen and diner with patio doors, 2 double bedrooms, master with en-suite, a further well appointed bathroom with shower, gas central heating, double glazing and allocated parking. EPC: B



STOURBRIDGE, Radley Road£595 pcm - Fees
An extended semi-detached house in a popular cul-de-sac location. This property will not last long and features an entrance hall, 2 generous reception rooms, extended kitchen, 2 double bedrooms and 1 single bedroom, bathroom with shower. Tiered rear garden, driveway & garage. EPC: E



HALESOWEN, Hoosen Close£575 pcm - Fees
A delightful modern refurbished mid terraced house located within a desirable quiet cul-de-sac. Featuring a lovely refitted kitchen with electric oven/hob, fridge freezer and hotpoint washer/dryer. Gas central heating, large lounge with patio doors offering views across a mature herbaceous garden benefiting from a sunny aspect, 2 bedrooms, bathroom with shower, garage, parking space. Close to bus links to Birmingham. EPC: E



NETHERTON, Copse Road £575 pcm - Fees
A semi-detached house that has been fully refurbished to a high standard comprising of: Hallway, front lounge, large kitchen/dining area, 3 bedrooms, bathroom with shower, front & rear gardens with driveway & additional parking to rear. Solar panels installed saving up to 30% on electric bills. Available now. EPC: D



HALESOWEN, Haden Arch Court£575 pcm - Fees
Contemporary living in Halesowen. This 1st floor spacious apartment above the archway, within walking distance to Halesowen Town Centre and buses, the apartment features gas central heating, double glazing, open plan living room, fitted kitchen, 2 double bedrooms, bathroom with separate shower cubicle, allocated parking. EPC: B



HALESOWEN, Talbot Street£575 pcm - Fees
Step inside this fantastic 3 bedroom terrace property. Renovated throughout within the last 6 months to a very high standard, featuring 2 great size reception rooms, modern fitted kitchen, fully tiled bathroom with electric shower, gas central heating system. This property will not be available long. EPC: E



CRADLEY HEATH, Station Road£550 pcm - Fees
A newly decorated & carpeted 3 bedroom mid terraced house in this popular location minutes away from Old Hill train station. This spacious property has 2 reception rooms, downstairs walk in shower room, modern fitted kitchen, 2 double bedrooms & 1 single. Private rear garden. On road parking. EPC: E



CRADLEY HEATH, Wrights Lane£550 pcm - Fees
A well presented 2 bedroom terraced property currently being refurbished and comprising of: lounge, breakfast kitchen, 2 double bedrooms, bathroom with shower, rear garden, within walking distance of Old Hill Train Station. Available end of October. EPC: E



NETHERTON, Golden Hillock Road£525 pcm - Fees
Undergone a complete redecoration and situated on a corner plot. This beautiful semi detached house features a good size lounge, large refitted kitchen, 2 double bedrooms, brand new modern bathroom with shower, downstairs WC, front, side and rear garden, gas central heating and double glazing. A must see property. EPC: D



HALESOWEN, Wright Street£525 pcm - Fees
Close to Halesowen Town Centre and Tenterfields Primary School. This end terraced home features gas central heating, large & airy living room, fully fitted kitchen with appliances, 2 double bedrooms and 1 single bedroom, bathroom with shower, rear garden, on road parking. Available now. EPC: E



HALESOWEN, Stour Court £500 pcm - Fees
A great opportunity to rent this spacious and well proportioned ground floor apartment in a popular location. Large & airy living room, fully fitted kitchen with appliances, 2 double bedrooms, white bathroom suite with shower. Outside there is allocated parking and communal gardens. EPC: C



DUDLEY, Attingham Drive £495 pcm - Fees
A part furnished 2nd floor apartment close to Dudley Town Centre. Featuring an open plan lounge/dining kitchen, 2 bedrooms, bathroom with a shower, electric storage heating, double glazing, alarm, allocated parking. EPC: TBC



HALESOWEN, Cross Street£495 pcm - Fees
Beautifully presented and very close to Halesowen Town Centre. This lovely ground floor maisonette features 1 double bedroom and 1 single bedroom, dining kitchen, brand new bathroom with shower, private rear garden and driveway parking for 2 cars. EPC: E



CRADLEY HEATH, Wycherley Way£475 pcm - Fees
A well presented unfurnished ground floor apartment briefly comprising: living room, 1 double bedroom with fitted wardrobes and 1 single bedroom, bathroom with shower. Benefits include gas central heating, double glazing, communal gardens, parking space. Close to local amenities. EPC: C



STOURBRIDGE, Clifton Street£450 pcm - Fees
A stunning apartment set in the Old Quarter of Stourbridge. Ideal for the town centre and transport links. The apartment is on the 1st floor and features a great size lounge, new kitchen, new bathroom with shower, 1 double bedroom, double glazing and electric heating, on road parking. EPC: TBC



HALESOWEN, Upper Ashley Street£450 pcm - Fees
1st MONTHS RENT HALF PRICE! Undergone a complete redecoration and not to be missed! Set in this quiet residential area close to Blacketh Town Centre is this lovely semi detached home featuring lounge, fitted kitchen with gas oven/hob, 1 double bedroom, brand new bathroom suite with shower, electric heating, parking, unfurnished. EPC: D



ROWLEY REGIS, Oldbury Road£425 pcm - Fees
Recently refurbished, very generous sized unfurnished flat above shop. Gas central heating, part double glazing, lounge, fitted breakfast kitchen, 1 bedroom, bathroom with shower, on road parking. Rent includes water rates. EPC: E

PROPERTY

Office/gym room at a £190,000 property



A THREE-BEDROOMED detached house in Castle Road West, Oldbury, is for sale via Braithwaites at £190,000.

It has an entrance hall, front reception room with a wooden fire surround, covered side passage, kitchen, with tiled floor and folding doors opening into the extended family room with under floor heating. Bedroom one has built-in wardrobes, there are two further bedrooms and a bathroom, a front garden with a block paved driveway, rear garden laid to lawn, a shed and office/gym/playroom with power. Contact Braithwaites on 0121 4211180 or visit www.braithwaites-es-tate-agents.co.uk website.



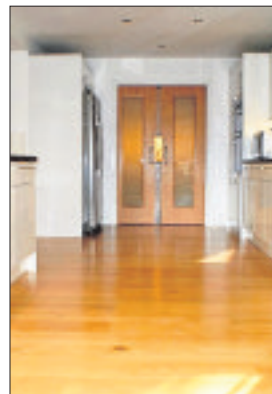
Four-bed detached and extended family home



A SUPERB four-bedroomed split level detached house in Gibbet Hill, Tividale, has been extended and re-planned to include extensive open plan accommodation.

It is for sale through Scriven & Co at £339,999.

On the ground floor is a reception hall with a staircase down to the lower hall, four bedrooms (bedroom one en suite), a bathroom and a side lobby. Off the lower hall is a WC, open plan living space/dining area and kitchen with an engineered wood floor finish, French doors to the garden, a flueless gas fire, a kitchen island/breakfast bar with a gas hob and extractor, space for a fridge/freezer, double oven, wine rack and double sliding doors to utility area. There is a rear garden and a garage. Contact Scriven & Co on 0121 4224011 or visit www.scriven.co.uk





**GREENACRES, BUCKERIDGE NR BEWDLEY
£545,000**

Superb country home set in gardens of over 1 acre. 4 Bedrooms (2 En-suite), Splendid Lounge, Orangery, Dining Room, Luxury Breakfast Kitchen, Shower Room & Utility, House Bathroom, Detached Double Garage with Excellent Annexe Accommodation Above, Superb Detached Garden Room, Rural Location, EPC F.



**CHISLE WOOD, GREY GREEN LANE, BEWDLEY
£529,950**

Individual 4 bedroom detached house in private gated plot offering spacious & superbly appointed family accommodation. 23ft Lounge, 'L' Shaped Conservatory, Dining Room & Separate Study, Breakfast Kitchen, Master Bedroom, En-suite & Dressing Room, Family Bathroom, Detached Double Garage, EPC D.



**NETHERLEA, NORTHWOOD LANE, BEWDLEY
£395,000**

An imposing Edwardian detached house enjoying an elevated position overlooking approximately 2 acres of landscaped gardens with the benefit of private fishing rights. Hall, Cellarette, Lounge & Sitting Room, Breakfast Room & Kitchen, Study, Utility Room, Cloakroom, Garage & Garden Room, Mains Gas, Energy Rating E.



**WHITE HART COTTAGE, HARTLEBURY
£410,000**

Spacious & versatile character cottage with adjoining former barn & stable in excellent decorative order, enjoying central village location set within generous gardens. Sitting Room, Dining Room, Lounge, Rear Hall & Utility, Spacious Fitted Kitchen 21'6", 4 Generous Bedrooms, En-suite & House Bathroom, GCH & DG, EPC E.



**HILLTOP COTTAGE, NEEN SOLLARS, NR. CLEOBURY MORTIMER
£387,500**

Delightfully situated & well proportioned country cottage with woodland gardens of around 1 acre with trout stream. 20ft Breakfast Kitchen, Open Plan Family Room, Lounge, Dining Room, Utility Room, Master Bedroom Suite, En-suite Shower Room & Dressing Room, 3 Further Double Beds & Bathroom, No Upwards Chain, EPC D.



**WOODLANDS ROAD, COOKLEY
£369,950**

Superbly situated, extended & improved 4 bedroom detached property in quarter acre plot adjoining grazing fields to the rear. Stunning 32' x 20' Breakfast Kitchen & Family Room, 29' Lounge/ Dining Room, Master Bedroom with Dressing Area & En-suite, Stylish Refitted Bathroom, Converted Loft/Play Den, Utility Room & Guest Cloaks. EPC C



**YEW TREE COTTAGE, GREY GREEN LANE, BEWDLEY
£355,000**

A deceptively spacious, extended & improved individual character cottage. 3 Double Bedrooms, Stylish Bathroom & En-suite Shower Room, Large Reception Hall, Living Room, Separate Dining Room, Study, Superb Re-fitted Kitchen, Utility Room, Guest Cloakroom, Neat Low Maintenance Gardens, No Upwards Chain, EPC D.



**HIGHCLERE, BEWDLEY
£335,000**

A most attractively presented and generously proportioned 4 bedroom detached family house complimented by outstanding landscaped gardens to front and rear. Reception Hall, Cloakroom, Through Lounge Dining Room, Fitted Breakfast Kitchen & Utility, House Bathroom & En-suite, Detached Double Garage, GCH & DG, EPC C.



**ARANBY, STOTTESDON, NR CLEOBURY MORTIMER
£299,950**

Large detached bungalow situated in heart of village. Superb Lounge, Open Plan Conservatory, 3 Double Bedrooms, Stylish Bathroom, 20ft Breakfast Kitchen with Aga, Open Plan Dining Room, Utility Room & Guest Cloakroom, Delightful Cottage Gardens, Large Workshop, Extensive Parking, No Upwards Chain, EPC D.



**SILVER STREET, KIDDERMINSTER
£295,000**

Excellent investment opportunity comprising 5 x 1 bedroom flats within this most attractive Grade II listed Victorian property close to the town centre currently producing a fully let income of approx £24,000 pa.



**MEATON LANE, KINLET NR BEWDLEY
£269,950**

Spacious four bedroom semi-detached house in desirable rural location with views front and rear. Through Lounge with Log Burner, Separate Dining Room, Oak Fitted Kitchen, Utility Room and WC, Rear Porch / Garden Room, Attic Master Bedroom / Bathroom, Separate Family Bathroom, Generous Gardens Adjoining Fields, EPC D.



**WESTBOURNE STREET, BEWDLEY
£169,950**

Fabulous newly refurbished, spacious three storey townhouse within walking distance of the riverside and town centre, ideal for busy professionals, buy-to-let or holiday use. 3 Double Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms, Brand New Fully Fitted Kitchen, Open Plan Lounge / Dining Room, Utility Room, Separate WC, No Upwards Chain.



**LITTLE OAKS, SHELSEY BEAUCHAMP
£169,950**

Well situated in picturesque rural hamlet and surrounded by glorious unspoilt countryside. Semi-detached bungalow with rear extensions, attractive outlook to front & a private aspect to rear, backing onto open hillside. Living Room, Snug, Extended Kitchen, 2 Bedrooms, Bathroom, Large Additional Room for Conversion, EPC D.



**ROPE WORKS COTTAGES, BEWDLEY
£145,000**

Charming & neatly presented mid 19th century cottage in secluded courtyard close to Severn Valley steam railway. Living Room with Feature Fireplace, Re-fitted Kitchen, Comprehensive Range of Integral Appliances, 2 Bedrooms, Bathroom inc. Shower Cubicle, 2 Parking Spaces & Patio Garden, No Upwards Chain, EPC D.



**WOODHOLME, HILL FARM, BEWDLEY
£120,000**

An excellent timber lodge with a difference! Three bedrooms including mezzanine first floor, 30ft open plan Lounge / Dining area / Kitchen area, Bathroom, Double glazing, Electric storage heating, Concrete floor, neat private Gardens, permanent residential occupancy.



**LOAD STREET, BEWDLEY
£79,950**

Second floor flat in good town centre position with wonderful exposed beams. Living Room/Dining Room, Kitchen, Double Bedroom, Bathroom, Electric Storage Heating, Ideal First Time Buy or Investment Property, No Upward Chain, EPC E.

Sales & Lettings
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Ross, Rowley Regis



AVAILABLE

EPC C



£270,000

A modern detached three storey property that comprises study, lounge, kitchen/diner and five bedrooms.

Old School Drive, Rowley Regis



AVAILABLE

EPC D



£200,000

Modern detached property set on a small popular estate. Comprises three bedrooms and two reception rooms.

Lodgefield Road, Halesowen



AVAILABLE

EPC D



£195,000

A modern detached property that comprises lounge, kitchen, laundry area, conservatory, three bedrooms, garage and rear garden.

Compton Road, Cradley Heath



AVAILABLE

EPC E



£160,000

An extended and well presented end terraced property. Comprises three bedrooms, two reception rooms and family bathroom.

Druids Avenue, Rowley Regis



AVAILABLE

EPC D

Offers Over £170,000

An extended detached property set in an established residential area close to many local amenities. Comprises four bedrooms, study and laundry room.

Willetts Drive, Halesowen



AVAILABLE

EPC D

£169,950

This modern detached house comprises three bedrooms, family bathroom, lounge/diner, kitchen, garden, garage and driveway.

Manson Drive, Cradley Heath



AVAILABLE

EPC C

£150,000

A spacious townhouse that comprises three bedrooms, lounge/diner, fitted kitchen, garden, garage and driveway. Viewing recommended.

Olive Lane, Halesowen



AVAILABLE

Awaiting EPC

£127,500

A modern end terraced property that comprises lounge/diner, kitchen, three bedrooms and rear garden.

Trejon Road, Cradley Heath



AVAILABLE

EPC E

£125,000

An extended vacant possession semi detached property. Comprises three bedrooms, lounge, dining room, laundry area and extended kitchen.

Blackberry Lane, Rowley Regis



AVAILABLE

EPC C

£100,000

A three bedroom terraced property that comprises lounge, kitchen, bathroom, garage and driveway.

King Street, Cradley Heath



AVAILABLE

EPC C

£79,950

A modern ground floor apartment that comprises lounge, kitchen, two bedrooms, en-suite, bathroom, allocated parking and communal gardens.

Hill Passage, Cradley Heath



AVAILABLE

EPC C

£75,000

A modern two bedroom apartment set in a purpose built block having secure allocated parking and communal entrance.

Sales & Lettings
Dudley 01384 849067

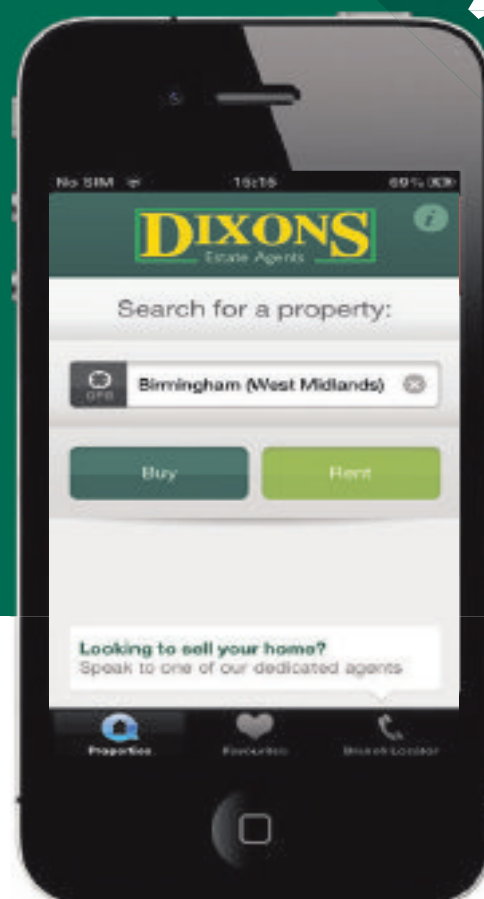
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OLDBURY

REDUCED

SUNNYBANK ROAD

- Immaculate Detached Bungalow EPC Rating C
- Lounge Fitted Breakfast Kitchen Conservatory
- Three Bedrooms Master En-suite Family Bathroom W/c
- Side Garage Driveway garden To The Rear
- Internal Viewing Highly Recommended

Offers Over £300,000 QUINTON 0121 4217766



QUINTON

NEW

WORLDS END LANE

- Extended Semi Detached Property EPC Rating E
- Lounge, Dining Room, Conservatory, Fitted Kitchen and Shower Room
- Four Bedrooms and Family Bathroom To The First Floor
- Property Benefits From Central Heating and Double Glazing
- Garage, Driveway and Large Rear Garden

£240,000 QUINTON 0121 4217766



DUDLEY

OAKHAM AVENUE

- Extended Detached Property EPC Rating D
- Two Reception Rooms Kitchen Utility Room Downstairs Shower Room W/c
- Four Bedrooms Family Bath/Shower Room W/c
- Block Paved Drive Garage and Garden To The Rear
- Property Internal Viewing Highly Recommended To Appreciate Accommodation

Offers Over £230,000 QUINTON 0121 4217766



QUINTON

HIGH STREET

- Period Mid Terrace Property EPC Rating E
- Good Size Lounge Kitchen Dining Room
- Four Bedrooms and Bathroom w/c
- Enclosed Garden To The Rear
- Internal Inspection Essential To Appreciate Accommodation

Offers Over £180,000 QUINTON 0121 4217766



QUINTON

NEW

MEADOW ROAD

- An Imposing Three Storey End Town House EPC Rating C
- Lounge, Conservatory, Kitchen and Cloaks W/c To Ground Floor
- Bedrooms Two and Three plus Family Bathroom W/c To The First Floor
- Master Bedroom With En-suite and Bedroom Four To The Second Floor
- Drive Providing Off Road Parking To The Front Garden To The Rear

£177,500 QUINTON 0121 4217766



OLDBURY

NEW

WHEATLEY ROAD

- Semi Detached Property EPC Rating C
- Lounge Kitchen and Cloakroom W/c To Ground Floor
- Three Bedrooms and Bathroom W/c To First Floor
- Gas Fired Central Heating System and Double Glazing
- Imprint Drive To The Front Garden To The Rear

£150,000 QUINTON 0121 4217766



QUINTON

NEW

BROOKMANS AVENUE

- Semi Detached Property EPC Rating D
- Through Lounge/Dining Room Kitchen Utility Cloakroom W/c
- Three Bedrooms Bathroom W/c
- Block Paved Drive To The Front Garden To The Rear
- Cul-de-sac Location Property Benefits From Having No Upward Chain

£140,000 QUINTON 0121 4217766



BARTLEY GREEN

NEW

ADAMS HILL

- Semi Detached Property Awaiting EPC Rating D
- Through Lounge/Dining Room Breakfast Kitchen Storage/Study Area
- Three Well Proportioned Bedrooms Bathroom Separate W/c
- Drive and Garden To The Front Landscaped Garden To The Rear
- Property Benefits From Having No Upward Chain

£130,000 QUINTON 0121 4217766



HALESOWEN

REDUCED

MAPLE ROAD

- Recently Re-furnished Mid Terrace Property EPC Rating E
- Two Reception Rooms Kitchen Downstairs Bathroom W/c
- Upstairs there Are Three Bedrooms
- Walled Frontage and Garden To The Rear
- Internal Viewing Recommended To Appreciate Accommodation

£125,000 QUINTON 0121 4217766



QUINTON

STONEHOUSE LANE

- End Of Terrace Property EPC Rating C
- Lounge/Dining Kitchen Store Room To Ground Floor
- Two Bedrooms and Bathroom To First Floor
- Front and Rear Gardens Detached Double Garage To The Rear
- Internal Inspection Recommended

£125,000 QUINTON 0121 4217766



QUINTON

SIMMONS DRIVE

- Mid Terrace Property EPC Rating C
- Lounge Dining Room Fitted Kitchen
- Three Bedrooms Bathroom W/c
- Driveway To The Front Garden To The Rear
- Well Presented Property Internal Viewing Recommended

£120,000 QUINTON 0121 4217766



ROWLEY REGIS

NO CHAIN

TITFORD LANE

- Detached Property EPC Rating D
- Through Lounge Kitchen To Ground Floor
- Three Bedrooms Bathroom To First Floor
- Driveway Front and Rear Gardens
- Property Benefits From Having No Upward Chain

£99,950 QUINTON 0121 4217766



WOODGATE

NO CHAIN

FALLOW WALK

- End Terrace Property EPC Rating D
- Lounge Kitchen-Diner Cloakroom W/c
- Three Bedrooms and Bathroom W/c
- Gardens To The Front and Rear
- No Upward Chain Viewing Recommended

£90,000 QUINTON 0121 4217766



OLDBURY

NO CHAIN

WATERWAYS DRIVE

- Spacious Ground Floor Apartment EPC Rating D
- Lounge/Dining Room Kitchen
- Two Bedrooms Bathroom W/c
- Property Has A Private Rear Garden and Allocated Parking
- Internal Viewing Recommended No Upward Chain

£80,000 QUINTON 0121 4217766



QUINTON

NEW

WARPLE ROAD

- Spacious Ground Floor Flat EPC Rating
- Lounge and Dining Kitchen
- Three Bedrooms Bathroom and Separate W/c
- Property Benefits From Central Heating and Double Glazing
- Viewing Recommended To Appreciate The Accommodation On Offer

£77,000 QUINTON 0121 4217766

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QUINTON

TO LET

St DAVIDS DRIVE

- Semi Detached Property EPC Rating D
- Lounge Dining Room Kitchen
- Three Bedrooms Bathroom W/c
- Garage Drive Rear Garden
- Available Mid to Late October

£750 pcm QUINTON 0121 4217766

OLDBURY

TO LET

WATERWAYS DRIVE

- Mid Terrace Property EPC Rating C
- Lounge and Kitchen To The Ground Floor
- Two Bedrooms and Bathroom To The First Floor
- Front and Rear Gardens Parking Area
- Subject To References Immediate Availability

£495 pcm QUINTON 0121 4217766

ROWLEY REGIS

TO LET

JOHN STREET

A two bedroom mid terraced house available in a popular street close to the High Street.

Comprising of two reception rooms (one can be used as a further bedroom), fitted kitchen, smaller dining room / playroom, ground floor bathroom, and two.

£550 PCM QUINTON 0121 4217766

QUINTON

TO LET

NAILERS CLOSE

- First Floor Maisonette Awaiting EPC Rating
- Lounge and Fitted Kitchen
- Double Bedroom and Bathroom W/c
- Parking Area Cul-de-sac Location
- Available Early November

£425 PCM QUINTON 0121 4217766

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*Based on buyers registered year to date versus the same time last year, August 2014.

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Ford C-Max hits spot and is an easy choice

By James Parker

Compromise doesn't have to be a dirty word. In fact, intelligent compromise is exactly what underpins the design of Ford's C-MAX compact MPV.

Here's a car that needs to be big enough to fit family and luggage but not so big that it's too hard to pilot around town or park. It requires an engine with the torque to move a fully loaded car but not one that's so thirsty that the family purse strings are going to be stretched to breaking point. It would need all the modern safety and convenience features that buyers demand, but pricing that isn't out of reach of wage packets that already have school uniforms to buy and hungry mouths to feed.

Hitting the sweet spot in all of those decisions and many others beside is where the expertise lies and is the reason why the C-MAX is one of the biggest selling cars in its class. Ford first introduced this compact MPV model in 2003 and since then has sold more than 1.2 million in Europe and currently holds a 12 per cent market share.

The C-MAX was always an easy pick for anyone who enjoyed driving. It was by far the best car in its class when showed a B-road.

Now that the Golf SV is around, that superiority is no longer quite so cut and dried, but it's still a class act. Particular attention this time round has been paid to improving refinement.

Noise, vibration and harshness have been improved through the use of thicker side glass and more absorbent seals around the tailgate and rear view mirror. The engine bay heat shield has been filled with acoustic damping material to reduce powertrain noise and diesel variants are equipped with extra acoustic seals to further reduce noise intrusion. A re-tuned dual mass flywheel helps to reduce shaking forces when the engine is under load, while revised engine mounts offer improved refinement during Auto-Start-Stop operation.

The star of the engine line-up is the 120PS 1.5-litre TDCi diesel engine, seen for the first time in the C-MAX, replacing the old 1.6-litre unit. Power goes up by five per cent while emissions drop by six points.

There are also the multi-award winning 1.0-litre EcoBoost petrol engines, offered once again in 100 and 125PS outputs. The big banger in the range is a revised 2.0-litre diesel.

The design of this C-MAX is evolutionary, with many of the details being brought up to date to reflect contemporary Ford thinking.

The dynamic styling delivers a stronger, sleeker front end, featuring Ford's distinctive inverted trapezoidal grille.

The washer jets have been hidden underneath the windscreen to give a cleaner look while the tailgate has been given a smoother and more sophisticated one-piece appearance.

Inside, you'll find a dash that's a lot less fussy than the previous model, reflecting the customer-led design refinements that have already been executed on the Focus. There are fewer controls and switches, while the new black satin trim and chrome detailing contributes to a cleaner look. Functions are simpler to use, such as the air-conditioning controls that now feature buttons that are easier to recognise and distinguish from each other. Practicality improves too, with a redesigned centre storage console.

The seats still tumble down individually in one motion to create a flat floor, with over 470-litres of space with all five seats in place.

Gizmos

Ford has gone quite big on electronic gizmos in this latest iteration of the C-MAX. The last model also had a lot of smart tech features and Ford rightly left most of them on the options list, giving customers the choice of whether they wanted to pay extra or not for these nice-to-haves. You can now get one of those tailgate openers which operate when you wave your foot under the bumper.

There's also a perpendicular parking system and Active City Stop collision avoidance that operates at up to 31mph. Ford's latest Sync2 voice-activated connectivity system is also on offer, delivering smartphone sync and the chance to control some of the car's minor functions by voice command. The clearer eight-inch colour touchscreen is a welcome addition.

Ford also bring us MyKey technology, which lets parents set a top speed and limit stereo volume in advance to prevent the young 'uns getting a bit overexcited.

The diesel models really come into their own when you're willing to put some miles on the clock. If you want the C-MAX as a school run and shopping vehicle, you'd be better advised going for one of the economical 1.0-litre petrol models as they're priced so cheaply as to be a more cost-effective purchase.

Really leverage the economy benefits of the diesel engine though and you'll save big. The 1.5-litre TDCi diesel returns a combined fuel economy figure of better than 65mpg. Go for the 2.0-litre and it will also get around 60mpg. Insurance reflects the C-MAX's family owner profile, excellent safety and security record and low cost of repairs. The 1.6-litre model is expected to be rated at just Group 16E.

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Model Shown: Jazz 1.4 i-TEC ES Plus in Milano Red. **Honda Aspirations (PCP):** Example shown based on Jazz 1.4 i-TEC SE Plus Manual low mileage 64 registered at £12,999 total cash price, total amount payable £15,303.93 with 36 months 10.9% APR Representative with £3,400.00 customer deposit, £174.98 monthly payment, Guaranteed Future Value / Optional Final Payment of £5,105.65 with agreed mileage of 18,500 and excess mileage charge: 2.44p per mile. **Model Shown:** Civic 1.6 i-DTEC SE Plus in Twilight Blue Metallic. **Honda Aspirations (PCP):** Example shown based on low mileage Civic 1.6 i-DTEC SE Plus Manual at £18,999 total cash price, total amount payable £22,664.06 with 36 months 10.9% APR Representative with £4,075.00 customer deposit, £274.74 monthly payment, Guaranteed Future Value / Optional Final Payment of £8,199.42 with agreed mileage of 18,500 and excess mileage charge: 3.84p per mile. **Terms & conditions:** Event ends 31st October 2014. You do not have to pay the Final Payment if you return the car at the end of the agreement and you have paid all other amounts due. The vehicle is in good condition and has been serviced in accordance with the Honda service book and the maximum agreed mileage has not been exceeded. Indemnities may be required in certain circumstances. Finance is only available to persons aged 18 or over, subject to status. All figures are correct at time of publication but may be subject to change. Credit provided by Honda Finance Europe Plc. 470 London Road, Slough, Berkshire SL3 8GJ. Honda Finance Europe Plc. is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. Financial Services Register number 312511. **Servicing:** All scheduled complimentary servicing (when purchased with Honda Aspirations), as detailed in the vehicles service book, will be covered for 3 years or 37,500 miles, whichever comes first.

Pulsar looks like business

By Sharon Walters

Nissan re-enters the family hatchback sector with the Pulsar, a somewhat conservative alternative to its extrovert crossovers like the Juke.

The engine range is limited but will expand with sportier models coming on stream. It's early days yet but the omens appear very promising.

Almost a decade ago, Nissan did something radical, something that's never been done by a mass market car manufacturer before. It abandoned the traditional genres of family hatches and medium range saloons, ditching the Almera and Primera models and concentrated instead on crossovers and SUVs. Cars like the massive-selling Qashqai and the Juke became Nissan's bread and butter and many other manufacturers scrambled to copy Nissan's model of success.

You can probably guess what happens next. Just as everyone else jumps ship to flood the market with lookalike crossovers, Nissan has decided to go back to the market it last served with the rather forgettable Almera. This time it revives an old name.

The Pulsar has been fitted with an all-turbocharged range of engines, as is the current vogue, largely carried over from the Qashqai range. Petrol buyers don't get a lot of choice as its stands with just a downsized 115PS 1.2-litre DIG-T engine available, although dealers will take orders for the 190PS 1.6-litre DIG-T that's proven popular in the Juke. Choose diesel, as

most UK buyers in this class do, and you get to select between a 110PS 1.6-litre diesel and, well, that's it. Where the diesel is solely offered with a six-speed manual transmission, the petrol engine comes with the choice of a manual or a six-speed Xtronic automatic gearbox.

Nissan hasn't done anything too radical to the styling of the Pulsar. It's almost as if they want to re-enter the market quietly, appealing to more conservative buyers who couldn't picture themselves behind the wheel of a Juke or a Qashqai.

The Barcelona-built Pulsar features instantly recognisable Nissan hallmarks like the V-motion grille and boomerang-shaped lighting signature with bold and energetic curves on the body side. It features some bold surfacing on the flanks although there are aspects of the rear end that are quite Corolla.

The interior features higher quality materials than we've seen on Nissan hatches to date, and there seems to have been a concerted effort to create a common look and feel across typefaces and grains on the dash. Thanks to the longest wheelbase in the class at 2,700mm, the Pulsar offers considerably more rear legroom and shoulder room than its sector rivals.

The entry level Visia is priced from £15,995 and gets a strong standard equipment count including a 5" colour screen, steering wheel mounted controls, Bluetooth and air conditioning. Step up to the Acenta model and another £1,700 or so nets you added extras like Forward Emergency Braking, automatic lights and wipers and Nissan's ingenious i-key system. The n-tec versions adds 17" alloys, privacy



.....
'It's almost as if they want to re-enter the market quietly, appealing to more conservative buyers

glass and Nissan's signature LED lights. It also offers a colour reversing camera and NissanConnect 2, an infotainment system offering full smartphone integration, Google Send-to-Car and access to a wide variety of apps.

At the top of the range is the Tekna, priced from £20,345, which gets further Nissan Safety Shield Technologies including Forward Emergency Braking, Moving Object Detection, Lane Departure Warning and Blind Spot Warning for the ultimate in passenger protection. Even the entry level model is well kitted out for safety equip-

ment with six airbags, wheel-mounted audio controls, a tyre pressure monitoring system, anti lock brakes backed up by electronic brakeforce distribution, and a stability control system that also include Nissan's Active Trace Control, which keeps you from deviating from your steered path.

We suspect that this will be a toe in the water for Nissan with more charismatic NISMO performance models slated for future release. It's been a long time coming but the Pulsar looks as if it means business.



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Having successfully raised hundreds of thousands of pounds for various charities already at their other supermarket locations, AvailableCAR chose Acorns for its work with life limited and life threatened children in the West Midlands.

AvailableCAR has already trained all their Team Members to help raise as much money as possible for Acorns by asking each customer if they can kindly add up to £5 onto every car sale

made at their new Cannock branch (located at Cannock on the A5 at the former Motorhouse2000 site).

The £5 gift is optional for customers to pay, however from past experience, AvailableCAR has found that the vast majority of customers are more than happy to help such a great cause and many donate even more.

For each charity donation, AvailableCAR then match the contribution and all funds go straight towards the general running costs to support the charity's three hospices in Selly Oak in Birmingham, Walsall and Worcester.

Since June this year, AvailableCAR has managed to raise £8,300 and the figure for the year should reach an expected £45,000.

Paul Arscott, operations director said: "We are delighted to be working with Acorns and hopefully will start to make some significant contributions to this fantastic resource for so many families located across the region."

Laura Richards, Acorns Children's Hospice corporate fundraising officer, said: "We are so grateful for the support of AvailableCAR and its customers."

"We rely on fundraising and donations to keep our services running, which cost £750 per child per day, so this kind of support is vital for us."

The Acorns donation scheme is now in place at the AvailableCAR Cannock branch and customers and visitors are welcome to come down and find out more.

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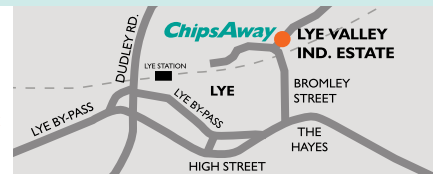
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Pool club makes a mighty splash

STOURBRIDGE Swimming Club made quite a splash at the Gloucester City Open Meet, with outstanding results throughout the weekend.

Three swimmers started well on Friday in the 1,500m(60 lengths) freestyle, with Adam Horton and Jack Morgan winning gold medals and Jonathan Baker the bronze medal, each in their respective age groups.

With 45 swimmers from the club in attendance over the whole weekend, the swimmers gained a magnificent 65 gold medals, 30 silver medals and 17 bronze medals between them. They also achieved an incredible 182 personal bests.

There were many fantastic swims throughout the weekend, but special highlights include Natalie Dingley's 50 fly sub 30 at 29.66, Adam Horton's 200 freestyle at 1.58.35 and Emily-Jane Bowater's 100 breast at 1.25.94.

Isabel Bladon and Natalie Dingley won the awards for top girls in their respective age groups, Adam Horton won age group top boy and then Isobel Bladon went on to win Top Overall Girl. The icing on the cake was the club won Top Club with 546 points.

Glassboys get back on track

Belper Town 0 Stourbridge 4

STOURBRIDGE secured their first Northern Premier League Premier Division win in over a month.

The Glassboys struck twice in the first-half through Kayelden Brown and Jordan Fitzpatrick before Kristian Ramsey-Dickson and Drew Canavan sealed the points in the second period.

Dean Coleman made a terrific double save on 22 minutes, denying Evan Garnett – before Brown struck the woodwork again for the visitors.

The deadlock was broken on the 29th minute when Canavan swung in a free-kick and Brown rose to head past James Martin.

Goals come thick and fast for Old Hales

Old Halesonians 1sts 3 Bridgnorth 3

OLD Halesonians Hockey Club Men's 1st XI kicked off a double-header weekend, as they hosted Bridgnorth at Ormiston Forge Academy.

Hales started the stronger side, and soon got their reward when Paul Woodall converted from the penalty spot.

Harry Hughes was next on the score sheet before the break.

In the second half Graham Knight smashed home to give Hales a 3-0 lead. However Hales self-destructed.

Bridgnorth first got a goal back against the run of play, and they soon found them-

Hockey

selves within one goal of levelling the score line. Hales were unable to rally together and prevent Bridgnorth from equalising, as the momentum shifted.

OHHC 1sts 2 Stourport 4

Hales started the game with a positive attitude and took the lead through Graham Knight.

Stourport came out fighting in the second half, and soon equalised.

Hales took the lead again when Knight

tapped in at the back post. Stourport were forced once again to react, and they equalised.

The visitors took the lead for the first time in the game through a scrappy finish, before they finally got out-of-sight with a fourth.

OHHC 3rds 6 Hampton 4

Old Hales got a goal in the first minute when Steve Butler, found striker Dan Millichap. Hampton equalised about 10 minutes later.

Old Hales then regained the lead just before half time thanks to Millichap's second. The second half produced seven goals.

The first was Hampton's equaliser.

They then took the lead for the first time. Old Hales then brought the scores back to 3-3 with Millichap getting his hat-trick.

Hampton then made it 4-3.

Old Hales equalised for the second time through Deck Glaze.

They then made it 5-4 with the goal of the game, when Millichap ran down the right, passed the ball to Dan Scarlett, who in turn found Steve Butler who returned the ball to Man of the Match, Millichap to tap in at the back post.

Old Hales then rounded off the victory with a sixth goal through Glaze.

Strong Scunny side overcome Old Hales

Scunthorpe 29 Old Halesonians 25

Old Halesonians were forced to make some changes with Nathan Jones Mark Evans and Loz Breese unavailable.

The home side looked stronger than last year and from the kick off used direct tight forward play to feed their backs who were big and strong.

After 11 minutes they scored a converted try.

Hales came back with pressure to force a penalty, Hooper converted.

After 22 minutes the Hales forwards secured the ball, Harris fed Powell to Carl Robinson and Luke Smith joined the line for a try in the corner.

Scunthorpe again came back using their big forwards to regain the lead 12-8.

Then flanker Nigel Burrows drove through the defence to score with Hooper converting.

Scunthorpe then forced a penalty to tie the scores at 15-15. Hales again found their feet and Hooper finished off a back move to score and convert his own try.

The second half was again a close encounter, pressure from Hales driving by Owen Jones, Tom King Rich Taylor and Pete Fitzgerald forced Scunthorpe to give a penalty away, Hooper converted.

Hales were feeling confident but could not put together any decent passages

Scunthorpe took the initiative and scored two converted tries to win.

Hales missed tackles and lacked support for each other. Although they fought to the last to make a mends

DK knocked back after long-awaited win



DK's Robbie Jones looks to pass the ball during heavy traffic in the match against Sutton Coldfield

DK 10 Sutton Coldfield 45

DK soaked up intense Sutton pressure in the first 10 minutes and it looked as if their last performance might continue when DK opened their account with a fine try.

Following resolute defence in the early exchanges an overlap was created for Nick Adams to run in unopposed. Kieron Pinches was unable to convert.

However, this purple patch only

flattered to deceive as the home side took control and ran in three converted tries in the space of seven minutes.

In the 17th minute following a quick penalty, SC's Nathan Burchell scored with Alex White kicking the conversion.

Four minutes later the live wire winger popped up again to score with Alex White adding the extra points.

DK began to drop off first time

tackles and Fraser Tait crossed near to the posts. White converted.

Just before half-time, the home team won a DK lineup and Tait crossed for his second try. White couldn't convert.

DK opened the scoring in the second half when Nick Adams raced 60 metres. This score was scant consolation as Sutton ran in three tries through Sean Harrison, Josh Rolls and Tom McNamme.

Late goal denies the Yeltz first home win

Halesowen Town 1 Stamford AFC 1

BEN HASELEY'S late header looked to have secured Halesowen's first home league victory until Stamford stung with an unlikely equaliser in the fourth minute of injury time.

Draw specialists Halesowen dominated the first period to create a series of half chances with Neil MacKenzie driving just wide on three occasions and Iyseden Christie heading Aaron Griffiths' long cross wide in the 23rd minute.

The Stamford stalemate continued for much of the second period with the visitors creating little, but the Yeltz still unable to turn possession into goals with both MacKenzie and Tom Tonks striking early second-half efforts wide.

Substitute Haseley finally broke the deadlock by nodding past Stamford goalkeeper Andy Stevens in the 85th minute.

Joe Hull made a good clearance from Stamford's Smith but the visitors had the last heart-breaking word deep in stoppage time after substitute Daniel Lawlor's corner fell for Ryan Clarke to slam home a 94th minute low drive through a crowded penalty area.

Nelson is the hero for Bilston

Bilston Town 2 Dudley Town 1


BILSTON got back to winning ways with a spirited display that saw them come from behind to take all three points in this Black Country derby against a lively Dudley Town side.

Dudley had the better of the opening exchanges.

A Dudley corner on 16 minutes saw Darryl Hand rise highest to head home the opening goal for Dudley.

The constant pressure finally brought its reward a few minutes later, Mark Habbershaw heading down for Michael Nelson to strike home.

It was Nelson who slid the ball beneath the Dudley keeper for his, and Bilston's second.



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SPORT

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in away game
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Starke's aiming to keep the title

CRADLEY skipper Paul Starke is desperate to see his side retain their National League Fours title at Coventry this weekend.

A sensational maximum from Starke helped the Heathens claim a dramatic victory in the event last year on their way to a clean sweep of honours.

Despite a reshuffled side, the club have remained in rampant form in 2014 as they continue to dominate the third tier of British racing.

In-form Steve Worrall plus young guns Max Clegg and Tom Perry will join Starke to form a heavily-favoured Heathens quartet as they travel to Coventry searching for silverware on Sunday.

And Starke is desperate to repeat their success of 12 months ago on what promises to be an exciting afternoon.

Starke said: "Winning the Fours last year like we did was a great moment in the season, so to win it again this year would be awesome."

Heathens host their final home meeting of the season at Wolverhampton next Tuesday, October 28, when they face King's Lynn in the Knockout Cup Final.

Admission prices are pegged at the normal rate £11 adults, £8 concessions.

Managerless Blues beaten

Blackburn 1 Blues 0
BEN MARSHALL scored for the second successive game to give Blackburn a 1-0 win over a Blues side under the caretaker charge of Malcolm Crosby.

Midfielder Marshall struck the decisive goal six minutes after half-time as he drifted in from the left to rifle a shot in off the post, and the visitors were given an uphill task on the hour as Neal Ardley saw red for a second booking.

Both sides had chances, with Birmingham's Clayton Donaldson prodding wide early on and Paul Caddis denied by Jason Steele.

After the goal and sending-off, Blackburn dominated, with Colin Doyle producing wonderful saves to deny Tom Cairney and Markus Olsson.

Cairney also struck a post. Blues have won one of their last 11 league games.

Adil nabs a hat-trick against the Villa

ALBION U-21s 4 Villa U-21s 1

ADIL NABI outshone 'wonder-kid' Jonathan Leko with a hat-trick to fire Albion to a comfortable 4-1 win in their 'mini-derby' against Villa at The Hawthorns.

The 20-year-old striker, who returned this season after a cruciate knee ligament injury, scored three goals and made the other for Kemar Roofe as the Baggies fought back from 1-0 down, writes Steve Madeley.

Thomas Strain headed Villa ahead on 23 minutes but Nabi drew the home side level just before half-time and they took control

Football

after the break. The visitors took the lead when Tom Smart was beaten on the Baggies left by Daniel O'Brien, whose fine cross was diverted home by an equally impressive looping header from Strain.

Albion were almost level four minutes later when Roofe raced onto Nabi's through-ball and saw his lob rebound off the crossbar with keeper Brad Watkins beaten. And the hosts were denied again moments later when Roofe burst down the

left and squared for Nabi, whose shot was hooked off the line by Kevin Toner.

Highly-rated 15-year-old Baggies striker Leko, who had a quiet 76 minutes in front of around 50 watching scouts, kept it alive and picked out Bradley Garmston, who blasted into the side-netting.

The Baggies were level on the stroke of half-time through a goal made and finished by Nabi.

He rode two challenges when he could have claimed free-kicks, fed Leko and then surged into the box to meet a right-wing cross and fire home from 10 yards.

Early in the second half, Nabi cut in from the left and exchanged passes with Roofe before rattling the crossbar.

And Nabi played his part as Albion took the lead on 70 minutes, picking out a clever through-ball to find Roofe, who produced a powerful, right-footed finish.

It was 3-1 on 73 minutes when Roofe returned the favour for Nabi, who dummed a defender and stepped onto his left foot before producing a crisp finish.

And Nabi completed his treble with 11 minutes remaining with a firm header to send Roofe's corner past a helpless Watkins.

Fast Lye hand out high five

Heath Hayes 0 Lye Town 5
HEATH Hayes struggled from the start against a very quick Lye side who showed pace from the start with Russel and Anslow giving Hayes back four a torrid time.

Lye took the lead on five minutes after good work by Richard Anslow laying the ball into the path of Daniel Jones who took his chance and fired home to open the scoring.

Four minutes later Billy Russell was bought down for a penalty which Damian Whitcombe put away to set Lye on course for what would turn out to be a rout.

On 30 minutes things got worse for Hayes when Tom Baggot received a red card for a tug on Russell.

Hayes completed a miserable first half when Harry Phillips' diving header found its way past his own keeper for the best own goal seen on our ground for many a year.

The second half continued much as the first with Hayes keeper Tom Burns making two fantastic saves before Mark Danks added the final two goals in the 70th and 80th minutes. Heath Hayes face Stoke on October 28.

Dash make good run in Brum

DUDLEY and Stourbridge Harriers athletes were well to the fore in this week's Great Birmingham Run.

Rob Meredith had a great run to finish an excellent 51st in a time of 1:18.8. Dave Nation was 63rd in 1:18.59 and Dave Ratcliffe just behind in 66th place in 1:19.25.

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YELTZZ GRAB FIRST LEAGUE HOME WIN

Halesowen Town 3 Rushall Olympic 0

HALESOWEN continued to climb up the league table with a comprehensive first home league victory.

The win sent Rushall reeling to a third consecutive defeat. The Pics were keen to recover from Saturday's 5-1 home defeat by Whitby and went close after just four minutes.

Aaron Williams burst through the middle of the home defence, only for home goalkeeper Matt Sargeant to make a good blocking save.

Sargeant then collected Carl Palmer's chip at Luke Barlone's feet.

But the Yeltz soon settled and went ahead when Ben Haseley turned well to fire a low shot past Rushall goalkeeper Cameron Bedford and into the net in the 15th minute to set the Yeltz on the way. Haseley then flicked just past the post from Chris Lait's 22nd minute corner.

Delivered

The home defence stayed firm late in the first half to defend Liam Smith's shot after Kris Taylor delivered two corners.

Sargeant then grabbed Barlone's header from a 36th minute corner after Joe Hull sliced the ball behind his own goal.

A minute later Hull converted for the Yeltz but his effort was ruled out for offside and seconds before the interval Rushall's Josh Craddock drove wide after pressure from Williams.

Halesowen confidently cruised home after the interval and Hull rose to head

Football

the Yeltz into a 2-0 lead in the 54th minute after meeting a left wing cross from Tom Tonks.

Hull almost repeated the trick five minutes later, but this time his header from Tonks' corner was beaten away well by Bedford.

The commanding win was completed when Neil MacKenzie found substitute lyseden Christie just outside near the halfway line and he in turn played the ball for fellow substitute Elliott Turner to work clear on goal and slot calmly past Bedford with nine minutes remaining.

Halesowen Town: Sargeant; Green, Griffiths, Forde (Turner 57), Hull (c), Tilt, Robinson, Tonks, MacKenzie, Haseley (Christie 79), Lait.

Unused Subs: Kettle, Charlton, Thompson-Brown.

Rushall Olympic: Bedford; Christophorou, Smith, Tolley, Taylor, Caines (c), Craddock, Palmer, Williams, Barlone, Reece (Farrell 65).

Unused Subs: Craner, Heath, Anagho-Ntamark.

Referee: Ben Cooke
Attendance: 316

Albion Blind sided as historic result denied



Stephane Sessegnon smashes the ball into the top corner to give Albion a dream start against United

Albion 2 Man Utd 2
ALAN IRVINE was denied a slice of Albion history by a heartbreaking late Manchester United equaliser.

But a fine display against Louis Van Gaal's richly-assembled team ensured another major step forward for his burgeoning Baggies team.

Saido Berahino looked set to send Albion fans into seventh heaven when his 66th-minute goal gave Irvine's men the lead for the second

time in a pulsating Hawthorns encounter.

But, with the hosts just two minutes away from a first Hawthorns win over United in 30 years, Daley Blind struck a vital equaliser to spoil the party.

It was tough on the Baggies, who deserved all three points having led twice - first through Stephane Sessegnon's brilliant eighth-minute goal that was cancelled out on 48 by half-

time substitute Marouane Fellaini.

Yet when the disappointment fades at the cruel timing of Blind's strike, Irvine and Co will reflect on a hugely encouraging performance and a more than useful point.

Albion deserved their half-time lead but it lasted just three minutes after the restart.

Di Maria crossed from the left to the far post, where Fellaini and rifled a blistering shot inside the net.

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